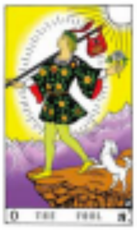
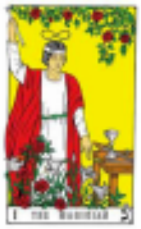
Tarot Tableau-Jewels

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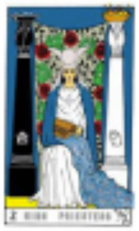
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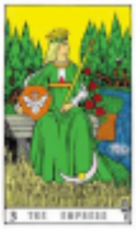
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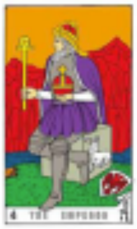
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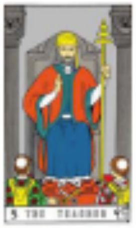
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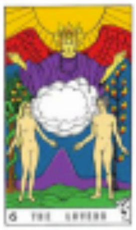
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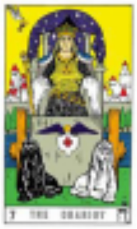
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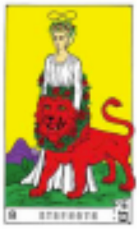

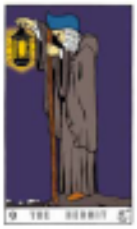
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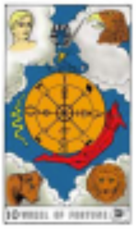
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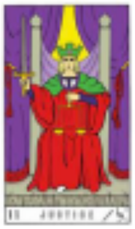

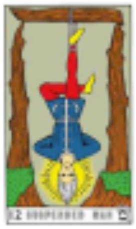
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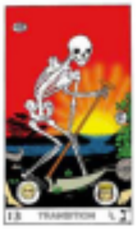
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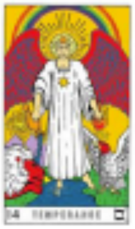
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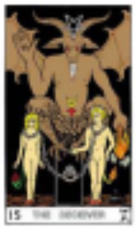
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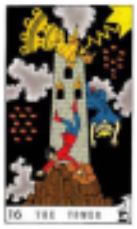
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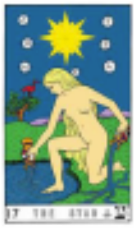

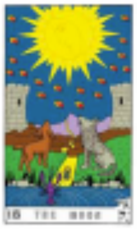

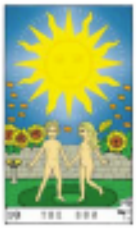

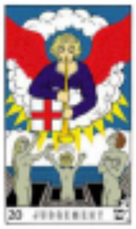
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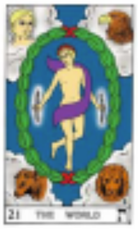
21 THE WORLD

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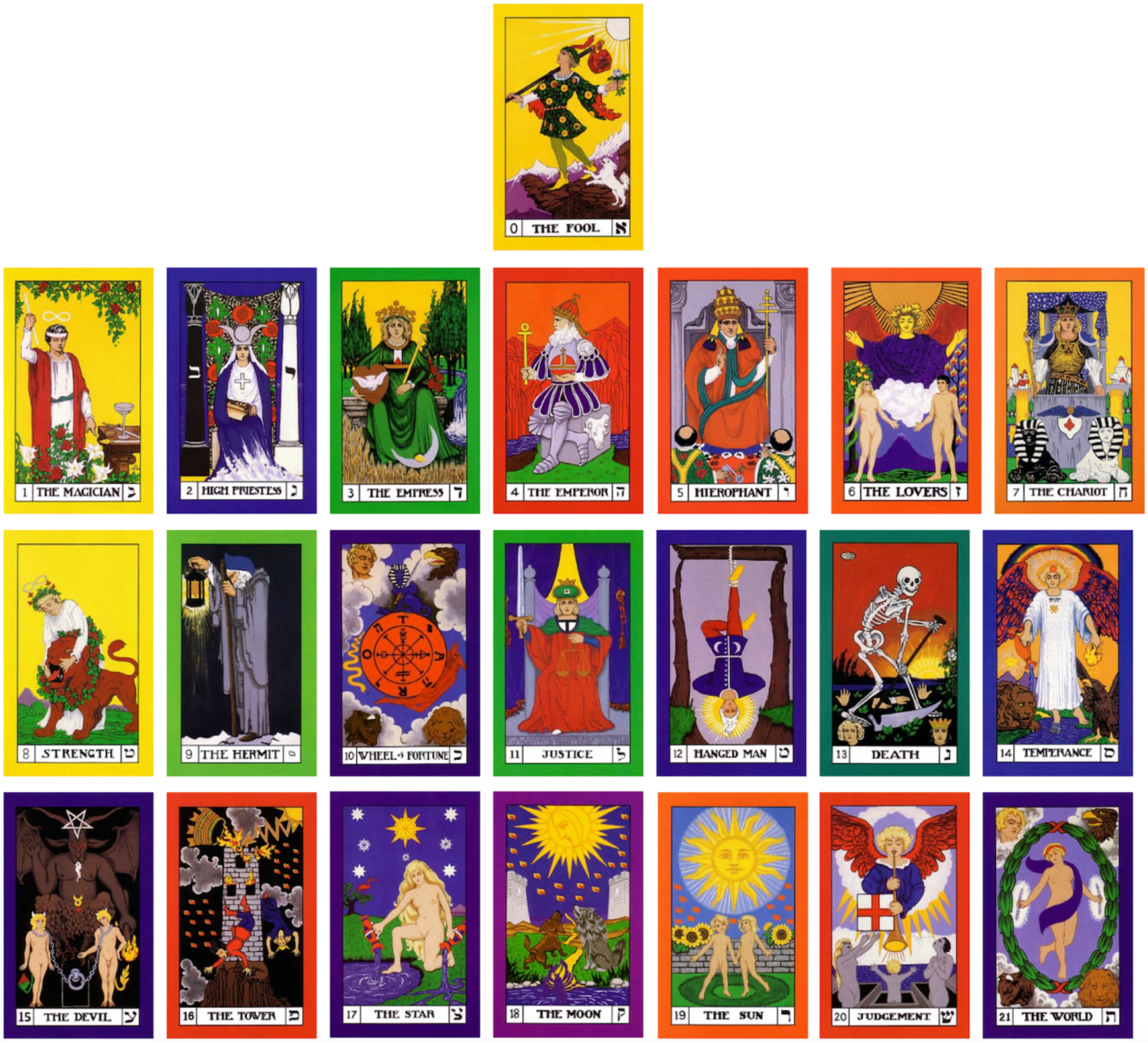
Paul Foster Case

TABLEAU OF THE TAROT


0 THE FOOL א
1 THE MAGICIAN ב
2 HIGH PRIESTESS ג
3 THE EMPRESS ד
4 THE EMPEROR ה
5 HIEROPHANT ו
6 THE LOVERS ז
7 THE CHARIOT ח
8 STRENGTH ט
9 THE HERMIT י
10 WHEEL of FORTUNE כ
11 JUSTICE ל
12 HANGED MAN מ
13 DEATH נ
14 TEMPERANCE ס
15 THE DEVIL ע
16 THE TOWER פ
17 THE STAR צ
18 THE MOON ק
19 THE SUN ר
20 JUDGEMENT ש
21 THE WORLD ת

Jewels of the Wise & Keystone of the Tarot

Published by The Science of Man

COLORING THE SPHERES ON THE TREE OF LIFE

PATH ONE: Crown (Kether): White

PATH TWO: Wisdom (Chokmah): Gray

PATH THREE: Understanding (Binah): Indigo

PATH FOUR: Mercy (Chesed): Blue

PATH FIVE: Severity (Geburah): Red

PATH SIX: Beauty (Tiphareth): Golden-Yellow

PATH SEVEN: Victory (Netzach): Green

PATH EIGHT: Splendor (Hod): Orange

PATH NINE: Foundation (Yesod): Purple

PATH TEN: Kingdom (Malkuth): Air, at top: Citron (Green plus orange); Fire, at left: Russet (orange plus violet); Water, at right: Olive (violet plus green); and earth, at bottom: Black.

Paths eleven through thirty-two refer to the twenty-two Tarot Keys and are colored as noted in the coloring instructions for each Key.

"In Thirty-Two wonderful Paths of Wisdom did Jah decree and create His universe, by means of three kinds of characters: Numbers, Letters and Words." To the Ten spheres of Emanation, He assigned Numbers, and these refer to the Macrocosm. To the channels between these Spheres, He assigned twenty-two Letters, which refer to the relationship between Macrocosm and Microcosm.

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The Lovers
The Chariot
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Justice
Suspended Man
Transition
Temperance
The Deceiver
The Tower
The Star
The Moon
The Sun
Judgment
The World
The Four Suits

INTRODUCTION

One gem from many facets blazes fire,
One Light paints sacred scenes of stained-glass hue.
To just One Truth do many faiths aspire -
There is One Way, but many paths thereto.

Tarot represents the Path of Initiation and depicts the workings of mind and soul on the Way of Enlightenment. The purpose of this book is not to present novelty but to further serve the cause of Truth. All essentials basic to the teachings are retained, with such changes as have been revealed and given due consideration.

This book is not slanted for literary appeal but to bring together the simple fundamentals of universal Wisdom as depicted by the ancient symbols of Tarot, and to present them as clearly and constructively as possible. You must realize that, although study can lead you closer to attainment by opening up awareness, it is only after you have found some degree of Reality within yourself that the symbols can be really understood and appreciated.

We have not been told everything about each Key, because no one can. You have to find much of it yourself, and it cannot all become clear the first time around. But this material should provide an accurate and fruitful beginning to encourage the dawning Sun of Reality.

This work is taken from the ancient Cabala of the Hebrew teachings and is not fortune telling Tarot. We have not gone into divination. Why should anyone sit back and let circumstances tell him what to do, to have his "fortune" told for him, when he is supposed to tell it what to do? He is expected by degrees to learn self-mastery, as he is able. No matter what the divination tells you, it does not have to happen, unless you accept it and will permit it.

It is suggested you meditate on each Key for five or ten minutes as you read the chapters. And if you decide to color pictures, take them in exact chronological order, forgetting your own preferences, to encourage the correct process chosen by the Master's to unfold the Wisdom of their teaching. For until you have studied one Key, or opened one door, you are not ready for any of those which follow. It is also recommended that after reading the entire book (not too fast), you could gain further by rereading the first three chapters and pondering the ancient quotations.

Coloring instructions and symbology in a nutshell are given in the companion book, *Keystone of Tarot Symbols*. The twenty-two cards of the Major Arcana are also available. In studying the cards individually, you can generally consider the background as representing that which has come before, or the past, and the background as that which depicts the present or future condition.

Let us assure you that the studies presented here are in no way derogatory to the teachings of any religious faith but are designed to amplify spiritual understanding in all of them.

Chapter 1

THE CABALA AND THE TREE OF LIFE

Cabalism has been called the great poem of Judaism - "a Tree of symbolic jewels showing forth the doctrine of the Universe as the vesture of Deity."

The Cabala also provides an enlightening background to the teachings of Tarot, although the two subjects can be studied quite independently, and each found complete in itself. Their common link rests in the Tree of Life and its Paths, based on the mystical significance of the same twenty-two letters attributed to the Keys of Tarot.

The Tree of Life is the creative Power manifesting through the various facets necessary for it to manifest, as God spoke the Word of Creation into His universe. The Tree is depicted, one might say, like a map of Creation showing the channels or Paths leading from God to His creation and back again, and through which the ancients attempted a minute study of each part in order to arrive at the whole.

It is shown upside-down, because spiritual or eternal Life can only be rooted in that which is above us in consciousness, not in the sky, of course, but in the inner, finer provinces of the heaven worlds, where senses geared to grosser physical life cannot reach. In this context, "above" and "within" are identical in meaning. Nor is this inner realm related to the physical body directly.

The only physical manifestation of the Tree of Life is its fruit, a very small part of which can be seen by earthly eyes in the world of the four elements. This is the product or end result of the Tree. In this the Tree of Life is unlike any growth begun from the material standpoint, where roots are temporarily anchored in the perishable earth below our feet.

The Tree of Life is described in the Bible in both the first and last books. In the beginning, the man of earth and his mate were driven from the vicinity of the Tree, before having tasted of its wondrous hit; but in the last chapter of Revelation the Tree of Life reappears in the New Jerusalem to be enjoyed by spiritually realized humanity. Two trees, in fact, were there, to provide the "happy ending" after a long and arduous journey.

Cabala, also spelled *Qaballah,* or *Kabbala*, is a Hebrew word which means "a thing received," and refers to the reception and transmission of divine revelation of the secret or hidden tradition and unwritten divine Law. Unlike the traditions of the Pharisees, which were based on custom and regulations, these teachings are not the literal or historical version of the Law as understood by the majority but are comprised of those meanings which were passed along only to initiates, and usually by word of mouth. Some like to think this teaching began back as far as Abraham, or even Adam.

The Ten Spheres on the Tree of Life diagram shown are called *Sephiroth*, a Hebrew word meaning "Emanations" or "Numberings" (the many from the One). Some Rabbis believed the word "Sapphire" also derived from *Sephirah*, because the Ten Spheres were called the Shining Sapphires which reflected the Light from the center of Kether, the Crown.

Beginning from the top, these Sephiroth, or Spheres, are called a "progressive materialization of Ideas in the Mind of God." Each is shown as a separate state in manifestation - a stage of God's Emergence, and all show phases of Creative Evolution. Then on the Way of Return when man lifts his consciousness to a higher level, a series of increasingly abstract refinements are experienced through the mystical initiations, as he draws nearer to the Fount or Source of all.

The Universe is described as having come about by the issuing of pure spiritual Substance from God; thus, the elements that were later to make up the universe were always potential in the Godhead.

The first known written work on the Cabala was the Book of Formation, traditionally supposed to have originated nearly two thousand years ago, but in proven circulation since the fourteenth century. Let us quote portions of this poetic work:

> Yah, the Lord of Hosts, the living Elohim, King of the Universe, Omnipotent, . . . Dweller in the Height whose habitation is Eternity . . . engraved His Name, and ordained and created the universe in thirty-two mysterious Paths of Wisdom, by means of the three Sepharim, namely: Numbers, Letters, and Sounds, which are in Him one and the same.
>
> Ten Sephiroth (ten properties from the Ineffable One), and twenty-two letters are the Foundation of all things. Of these twenty-two letters, three are called Mother letters, seven double letters, and twelve simple letters.
>
> The ten numbers out of Nothing are analogous to the ten fingers and ten toes: five over against five. In the center between them is the covenant with the Only One God. In the spiritual world, it is the covenant of the voice (the Word), and in the corporeal world the circumcision of the flesh.
>
> Ten are the numbers out of Nothing - ten, not nine; ten, not eleven. Comprehend this great Wisdom, understand this knowledge and be wise. Inquire into the mystery and ponder it. Examine all things by means of the ten Sephiroth. Restore the Word to Its Creator and lead the Creator back to His throne again. He is the only Formator and beside Him, there is no other. His attributes are ten and are without limit.
>
> The ten ineffable Sephiroth have ten infinitudes, which are: The infinite Beginning and the infinite End; the infinite Good and the infinite Evil; the infinite Height and the infinite Depth; the infinite East and the infinite West; the infinite

> North and the infinite South; and over them is the Lord Superlatively One, who rules over them for ages of ages.
>
> The appearance of the ten spheres out of Nothing is as a flash of lightning or a sparkling flame, and they are without beginning or end. The Word of God is in them when they go forth and when they return. At His bidding do they haste like a whirlwind and prostrate themselves before His throne.
>
> The ten Sephiroth have their end linked to their beginning, and their beginning linked to their end, conjoined as the flame is wedded to the live coal; for the Lord is Superlatively One and to Him there is no second. Before One, what can you count?
>
> Concerning the number of the spheres of existence (the Sephiroth) out of Nothing, seal up your lips and guard your heart as you consider them, and if your mouth opens for utterance and your heart turns toward thought, control them, returning to the silence. So, it is written: 'And the living creatures ran and returned.' (Ezekiel 1:14) And on this wise was the covenant made with us.
>
> These are the ten emanations of Number out of Nothing.

They represent the successive Divine Emanations which constitute creative evolution, and are sometimes drawn like a flash of Lightning, zigzagging from one to another in order of the numbers, the whole being shown hilted like a fiery Sword.

All ten are eternal, and they are the Substance of all that is - the form to be supplied by the twenty-two letters. They represent the contrast between substance and form, and creation must resolve that contrast with God as the solvent. In this Way, Existence, or the combination of form and substance, takes on reality.

The Ten Sephiroth are in essence as follows (see Tree of Life diagram). Hebrew translation is in parenthesis.

Numerically, the Zero does not represent one of the Spheres, but rather the background of the whole Tree, and the Absolute, or Nameless Root of all manifestation. It suggests the Radiant darkness out of which emerges the first Light, while its circular form symbolizes totality and eternity, and non-being in the sense of being without qualification. It is the Cosmic Egg from which all Creation and all numbers emerge.

Sphere 1. CROWN (Kether) is the name of the first Sphere. It symbolizes the mystical point and irradiating center, or First Force of Whirling Energy, at the nucleus of the circle and the Egg. Here occurs the focusing of Power and the initiating of all things.

Sphere 2. WISDOM (Chokmah) is called the second power of God. It is located at the top of the right Pillar on the Tree, and represents the Father Principle in Creation, the fiery

Life Force, which is the generating principle of all the numbers, and the beginning of polarity.

Sphere 3. UNDERSTANDING or INTELLIGENCE (Binah), the third power of God, third point on the Supernal Triangle, and the Mother Principle in all Nature, situated at top of the left Pillar of the Tree. As the Life Force starts to limit itself, there begins a condensation of energy for the substantiation of form, and the beginning of generation. From her comes forth the seven lower spheres.

Sphere 4. MERCY or GREATNESS (Chesed), the fourth power of God, represents Cosmic Memory looking back to the Source of all, and demonstrating Beneficence, mildness, and might. The first day of Biblical creation.

Sphere 5. SEVERITY or STRENGTH (Geburah), the fifth power of God. Immutable operation of Cosmic Law, whose workings seem severe to those not acting in accord therewith. The Dynamic Law of Sphere 5 proceeds from the Abstract Order of Sphere 4, producing the balance of Mercy with Justice.

Sphere 6. BEAUTY (Tiphareth), the sixth power of God. Cosmic Son-Sun, and Divine Love. Harmony, symmetry, and balancing of all opposites. Center of the Tree, and Mediator between archetypal worlds above, and human realms below.

Sphere 7. VICTORY (Netzach), seventh power of God. Mastery through Victory over the desire nature. Realm of Venus and emotions. The fourth day of Biblical creation.

Sphere 8. SPLENDOR or GLORY (Hod), eighth power of God, and of the Intellect. Balances with Victory opposite. Vibration and infinity. Hermetic teachings; realm of Mercury.

Sphere 9. FOUNDATION (Yesod), the ninth power of God, Omnipotent. The astral and lunar realm of the formative state of consciousness, the automatic consciousness, and the heaven world.

Sphere 10. KINGDOM (Malkuth) is the tenth power of God. Outward manifestation of creation, the kingdom of heaven established in the world of the four elements. The number 10 indicates completion of a cycle or orb, ready to start over on a higher level, always moving in spiral fashion, and evolving upward.

There are but ten fundamental questions in the universe. Each corresponds to an attribute.

In treading the thirty-two Paths on the Tree of Life, you first receive fully from each what can be absorbed as you go. Then, having finished the journey, and arrived at the place where fruit manifests in Light and Wisdom, you begin to give forth to others of that which has been received, and to rise higher in consciousness on the Way of Return over the same Paths from a different perspective, where you are the driver rather than the passenger.

These paths are not really separate but act as thirty-two different aspects of awareness of One Single Reality, much as a jewel flashes light from one facet or another, each being but different expressions of One Whole.

"In thirty-two mysterious Paths of Wisdom did God write. He created His Universe by the three forms of expression: Numbers, Letters, and Words." It is a combination of these which is called the Speech of God. "How did He fuse them together - stones as letters, houses as words?"

The Ten Spheres of Emanation make up the first Ten Paths of Thirty-Two. They represent the Macrocosm and are based upon Number. To each of these spheres is given a name as well as a Number.

Chapter 2

THE TWENTY-TWO LETTERS

Between the Ten Spheres of Emanation run twenty-two Channels or Paths to each of which is assigned a sound - twenty-two of them for the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet. The Paths represent the relation between Macrocosm and Microcosm, and also, the Grades or Stages of Initiation.

As steps of Soul-unfoldment, or phases of subjective development, they lead one on toward conscious realization of the Cosmos. They are sometimes called Ways, or degrees of Manifestation of the Divine Life-Force.

Of the letters, it is said: they are designed and appointed by God, for "God drew them, hewed them, combined them, weighed them, interchanged them, and through them produced the whole Creation and everything that is destined to be created." He established them, formed by the breath, and by breath impressed them upon the air.

God spoke the Word of Creation. The Word is made up of sounds, and sounds are identified by symbols called letters. The twenty-two letters depict all possible words.

It is said that these twenty-two letters by their various combinations are the means by which the laws of the universe are established and constitute the "scepter of the Almighty which He wields from his flaming throne in the Higher Realm. He created a reality out of Nothing. He called the non-entity into existence and hewed colossal pillars from intangible air."

Through understanding of the letters, we reach to the Name or Source, which is the object of contemplation. Jesus, Himself, was called the Word made flesh, and our own spiritual development comes about as a result of the Word.

Let us quote further from the ancient Book of Formation, sometimes called the "Ladder of Truth":

"When the Patriarch Abraham had comprehended the Great Truths and meditated upon them, the Lord of the Universe appeared to him, called him "Friend," kissed him on the head and made with him a covenant. He bound the spirit of the twenty-two letters upon his tongue and disclosed to him their secrets. God permitted the letters to be immersed in water, He burned them in the fire and imprinted them upon the winds."

There are twenty-two basic sounds and letters. Three are the first elements, fundamentals, or mothers - Fire, Air, and Water, (Shin, Aleph, and Mem).
Seven are the double letters, and twelve are the simple letters.

3 Mother Letters

The three Mother Letters are: Sh, A, and the basic elements from which all manifested creation originates.

Key 20	Sh	Shin	Realization	Fire
Key 0	A	Aleph	Superconsciousness	Air
Key 12	M	Mem	Reversal	Water

Seven Double Letters

The seven double letters - B, G, D, K, P, R, and Th - are so designated because to each is assigned the Intelligence or attribute of a pair of opposites. Each has a duplicity of pronunciation as two voices and can be spoke aspirated or unaspirated. They also signify the dualities to which mankind is exposed - the hardness and softness, the weakness and strength. For while these seven symbolize the gifts of wisdom, riches, fertility, life, power, peace and grace, they also signify their opposites.

Key 1 -	B	Beth	Life & Death	Mercury
Key 2 -	G	Gimel	Peace & Strife	Moon
Key 3 -	D	Daleth	Wisdom & Folly	Venus
Key 10 -	K	Kaph	Wealth & Poverty	Jupiter
Key 16 -	P	Peh	Grace & Sin	Mars
Key 19 -	R	Resh	Fertility & Sterility	Sun
Key 21 -	Th	Tav	Dominion & Slavery	Saturn

The twelve simple letters are attributed to the signs of the zodiac, and to each is assigned a definite function. Those representing the five senses and speech are mentioned first, thus:

Key 4 -	H	Heh	Emperor	Sight
Key 5 -	W	Vav	Teacher	Hearing
Key 6 -	Z	Zain	Lovers	Smell
Key 7 -	Ch	Cheth	Chariot	Speech
Key 8 -	T	Teth	Strength	Taste (Digestion)
Key 9 -	Y	Yod	Hermit	Tough
Key 11 -	L	Lamed	Justice	Action
Key 13 -	N	Nun	Transition	Motion
Key 14 –	S	Samekh	Temperance	Wrath
Key 15 -	O	Ayin	Adversary	Mirth
Key 17 -	Tz	Tzaddi	Star	Meditation
Key 18 -	Q	Qoph	Moon	Sleep

Sometimes the Rose Cross is shown with a flower of twenty-two petals. The outer circle of the second row of seven petals corresponds to the seven double letters. The three Mother letters make up the inner row.

Attributes:

🎨 Color – ♫ Tone Correspondences (Queen Scale → Chromatic Notes)

- C → 🔴 Red
- C♯ / D♭ → 🔴🟠 Red-Orange
- D → 🟠 Orange
- D♯ / E♭ → 🟠🟡 Orange-Yellow
- E → 🟡 Yellow
- E♯ / F → 🟡🟢 Yellow-Green
- F♯ / G♭ → 🟢 Green
- G → 🟢🔵 Green-Blue
- G♯ / A♭ → 🔵 Blue
- A → 🔵🟣 Blue-Violet
- A♯ / B♭ → 🟣 Violet
- B → 🟣🔴 Violet-Red

🎴 Tarot Keys and Musical Notes (Paul Foster Case)

- Key 0 Aleph (א, The Fool) → Air → 🟡 Pale Yellow → ♫ E
- Key 1 Beth (ב, The Magician) → Mercury ☿ → 🟡 Yellow → ♫ E
- Key 2 Gimel (ג, The High Priestess) → Moon ☾ → 🔵 Blue → ♫ G♯ / A♭
- Key 3 Daleth (ד, The Empress) → Venus ♀ → 🟢 Green (Emerald) → ♫ F♯ / G♭
- Key 4 Heh (ה, The Emperor) → Aries ♈ → 🔴 Red → ♫ C
- Key 5 Vav (ו, The Hierophant) → Taurus ♉ → 🔴🟠 Red-Orange → ♫ C♯ / D♭
- Key 6 Zain (ז, The Lovers) → Gemini ♊ → 🟠 Orange → ♫ D
- Key 7 Cheth (ח, The Chariot) → Cancer ♋ → 🟠🟡 Orange-Yellow → ♫ D♯ / E♭
- Key 8 Teth (ט, Strength) → Leo ♌ → 🟡 Yellow → ♫ E
- Key 9 Yod (י, The Hermit) → Virgo ♍ → 🟡🟢 Yellow-Green → ♫ F
- Key 10 Kaph (כ, Wheel of Fortune) → Jupiter ♃ → 🟣 Violet → ♫ A♯ / B♭
- Key 11 Lamed (ל, Justice) → Libra ♎ → 🟢 Green → ♫ F♯ / G♭
- Key 12 Mem (מ, The Hanged Man) → Water → 🔵 Blue → ♫ G♯ / A♭
- Key 13 Nun (נ, Death) → Scorpio ♏ → 🔵🟢 Blue-Green → ♫ G
- Key 14 Samekh (ס, Temperance) → Sagittarius ♐ → 🔵 Blue → ♫ G♯ / A♭

- Key 15 Ayin (ע, The Devil) → Capricorn ♑ → 🔵🟣 Blue-Violet → 🎵 A
- Key 16 Peh (פ, The Tower) → Mars ♂ → 🔴 Red → 🎵 C
- Key 17 Tzaddi (צ, The Star) → Aquarius ♒ → 🟣 Violet → 🎵 A♯ / B♭
- Key 18 Qoph (ק, The Moon) → Pisces ♓ → 🟣🔴 Violet-Red → 🎵 B
- Key 19 Resh (ר, The Sun) → Sun ☉ → 🟠 Orange → 🎵 D
- Key 20 Shin (ש, Judgment) → Fire → 🔴 Red (Scarlet) → 🎵 C
- Key 21 Tau (ת, The World) → Saturn ♄ / Earth → 🔵🟣 Blue-Violet / Indigo → 🎵 A

🌬🔥💧 The 3 Mother Letters

Key 0 – The Fool (Aleph, א)

- Element: Air 🌬
- Season: Equinox (Balance of Light & Dark)
- Polarity: Expansion & Contraction
- Color: 🟡 Pale Yellow
- Function: Breath / Super-consciousness, equilibrating power
- Note: E
- Cube: Interior Axis — Above to Below

Key 12 – The Hanged Man (Mem, מ)

- Element: Water 💧
- Season: Winter Solstice (Cold Season)
- Polarity: Stability & Change
- Color: 🔵 Blue
- Function: Reflection / Subconscious suspension, Great Sea of Mind
- Note: G♯ / A♭
- Cube: Interior Axis — East to West

Key 20 – Judgment (Shin, ש)

- Element: Fire 🔥
- Season: Summer Solstice (Hot Season)
- Polarity: Power & Submission
- Color: 🟣🔴 Violet-Red
- Function: Spirit / Transformative Fire, perpetual renewal & resurrection
- Note: B
- Cube: Interior Axis — North to South

🌌 The 7 Double Letters

Key 1 – The Magician (Beth, ב)

- Planet: Mercury ☿ — Day: Wednesday (Woden’s Day)
- Polarity: Life & Death
- Color: 🟡 Yellow
- Function: Attention / Self-conscious will, skill
- Note: E
- Cube: Above Face (Top)

Key 2 – The High Priestess (Gimel, ג)

- Planet: Moon ☽ — Day: Monday (Moon’s Day)
- Polarity: Peace & War
- Color: 🔵 Blue
- Function: Memory / Subconscious receptivity, intuition
- Note: G♯ / A♭
- Cube: Below Face (Bottom)

Key 3 – The Empress (Daleth, ד)

- Planet: Venus ♀ — Day: Friday (Freya’s Day)
- Polarity: Wisdom & Folly
- Color: 🟢 Green
- Function: Imagination / Creative matrix, fertility, beauty
- Note: F♯ / G♭
- Cube: East Face

Key 10 – Wheel of Fortune (Kaph, כ)

- Planet: Jupiter ♃ — Day: Thursday (Thor’s Day)
- Polarity: Wealth & Poverty
- Color: 🟣 Violet
- Function: Fortune / Expansion, cycles, abundance, law
- Note: A♯ / B♭
- Cube: West Face

Key 16 – The Tower (Peh, פ)

- Planet: Mars ♂ — Day: Tuesday (Tiw’s Day)
- Polarity: Grace & Indignation
- Color: 🔴 Red

- Function: Speech / Force, rupture, purification through fire
- Note: C
- Cube: North Face

Key 19 – The Sun (Resh, ר)

- Planet: Sun ☉ — Day: Sunday (Sun’s Day)
- Polarity: Fertility & Barrenness
- Color: 🟠 Orange
- Function: Sight / Illumination, vitality, glory
- Note: D
- Cube: South Face

Key 21 – The World (Tav, ת)

- Planet: Saturn ♄ — Day: Saturday (Saturn’s Day)
- Polarity: Dominion & Slavery
- Color: 🔵🟣 Indigo-Blue Violet
- Function: Completion / Structure, limitation, endurance
- Note: A
- Cube: Center of the Cube

♈–♓ The 12 Simple Letters

Key 4 – The Emperor (Heh, ה)

- Sign: Aries ♈ — Mar 21–Apr 19 (Nisan / Spring Equinox)
- Polarity: Sight & Blindness
- Color: 🔴 Red
- Function: Sight / Reason, rulership, initiative, energy of beginnings
- Note: C
- Cube: Northeast Edge

Key 5 – The Hierophant (Vav, ו)

- Sign: Taurus ♉ — Apr 20–May 20 (Iyar / Mid-Spring)
- Polarity: Hearing & Deafness
- Color: 🔴🟠 Red-Orange
- Function: Hearing / Inner hearing, intuition, teaching, stability
- Note: C♯ / D♭
- Cube: Southeast Edge

Key 6 – The Lovers (Zain, ז)

- Sign: Gemini ♊ — May 21–Jun 20 (Sivan / Late Spring)
- Polarity: Movement & Repose
- Color: 🟠 Orange
- Function: Smell / Discrimination, choice, union of opposites
- Note: D
- Cube: East Above Edge

Key 7 – The Chariot (Cheth, ח)

- Sign: Cancer ♋ — Jun 21–Jul 22 (Tammuz / Summer Solstice)
- Polarity: Speech & Silence
- Color: 🟠🟡 Orange-Yellow
- Function: Speech / Voice, protection, control, vehicle of the soul
- Note: D♯ / E♭
- Cube: East Below Edge

Key 8 – Strength (Teth, ט)

- Sign: Leo ♌ — Jul 23–Aug 22 (Av / High Summer)
- Polarity: Dominion & Subjugation
- Color: 🟡 Yellow
- Function: Taste / Appetite, courage, mastery of passions, heart power
- Note: E
- Cube: North Above Edge

Key 9 – The Hermit (Yod, י)

- Sign: Virgo ♍ — Aug 23–Sep 22 (Elul / Harvest Season)
- Polarity: Work & Rest
- Color: 🟡🟢 Yellow-Green
- Function: Work / Hand, prudence, discrimination, inner guidance
- Note: F
- Cube: North Below Edge

Key 11 – Justice (Lamed, ל)

- Sign: Libra ♎ — Sep 23–Oct 22 (Tishrei / Autumn Equinox)
- Polarity: Love & Hatred
- Color: 🟢 Green
- Function: Motion / Balance, law, truth, equilibrium
- Note: F♯ / G♭
- Cube: Northwest Edge

Key 13 – Death (Nun, נ)

- Sign: Scorpio ♏ — Oct 23–Nov 21 (Cheshvan / Mid-Autumn)
- Polarity: Generation & Corruption
- Color: 🟢🔵 Green-Blue
- Function: Reproduction / Generation, transformation, renewal, life through death
- Note: G
- Cube: Southwest Edge

Key 14 – Temperance (Samekh, ס)

- Sign: Sagittarius ♐ — Nov 22–Dec 21 (Kislev / Winter approach)
- Polarity: Temperance & Wrath (Trial / Testing, Equilibration vs. Excess)
- Color: 🔵 Blue
- Function: Moderation, balance, discipline of passions, probation, testing, the middle way
- Note: G♯ / A♭
- Cube: West Above Edge

Key 15 – The Devil (Ayin, ע)

- Sign: Capricorn ♑ — Dec 22–Jan 19 (Tevet / Winter Solstice)
- Polarity: Freedom & Slavery
- Color: 🔵🟣 Indigo-Blue Violet
- Function: Mirth / Laughter, bondage leading to freedom, facing shadow, endurance
- Note: A
- Cube: West Below Edge

Key 17 – The Star (Tzaddi, צ)

- Sign: Aquarius ♒ — Jan 20–Feb 18 (Shevat / Mid-Winter)
- Polarity: Grace & Indignation
- Color: 🟣 Violet
- Function: Meditation / Imagination, inspiration, hope, cosmic flow
- Note: A♯ / B♭
- Cube: South Above Edge

Key 18 – The Moon (Qoph, ק)

- Sign: Pisces ♓ — Feb 19–Mar 20 (Adar / Late Winter)
- Polarity: Wealth & Poverty
- Color: 🟣🔴 Violet-Red
- Function: Sleep / Dream, imagination, testing, twilight of the soul

- Note: B
- Cube: South Below Edge

Chapter 3

THE ORIGINS OF TAROT

The Tarot is a book of pictures, each of which depicts a different version of the great universal Truths, in symbolism common to all sacred teachings since the most ancient times.

These symbols were designed with great care by spiritual Masters of Wisdom that they might awaken within each who perused them a recognition of his true Self.

We think more vividly in pictures than we do in words, so that a picture impressed on our minds is easier to remember than the same lesson not illustrated. These pictures are called Tarot Keys, and the symbols do act as Keys to unlock, one by one, the secret chambers of our soul's memories of that Divine Source from whence we came. In that sense, they are not something that must be learned, but rather they help to uncover through association that which we already know.

These pictures become painted in Light upon our inner consciousness, and each admits one portion of the whole Light, just as stained-glass windows of a great cathedral tell of various events, but the Light they diffuse is all from the same Source.

The origins of Tarot are hidden in the archives of time; for no one knows definitely when and where to place the beginning of this ancient book of pictures. In a day when spiritual knowledge was highly suspected, and books were being burned which did not agree with the current religious or political ruling, what better way to hide the sacred Wisdom Teachings than to put them out in plain sight, among a set of "foolish" pictures, which could be carried in anyone's pocket, and hidden under the crude cover of a game in case they were found?

These symbols are so simply used that only the initiate would notice them. The Fool himself is a clue to their secret. Sufi masters often played the part of fools to put across their teachings in action rather than words. And the royal court jester of old was often a very wise man who by calculated antics was subtly able to advise a king.

The Sufis claim that tarot forms an allegory of the teachings of a Sufi master about certain cosmic influences upon humanity, and that the word "Tarot" derives from the Arabic turuq meaning "four ways," in view of the division of the pictures into four elements of four "suits" when brought down into playing cards. The word *tariquat* means "the way" - reminiscent of the TAO, the Way of Lao-tse. Another source says the word comes from the Sanskrit, and means "fixed star," symbolizing immutable tradition.

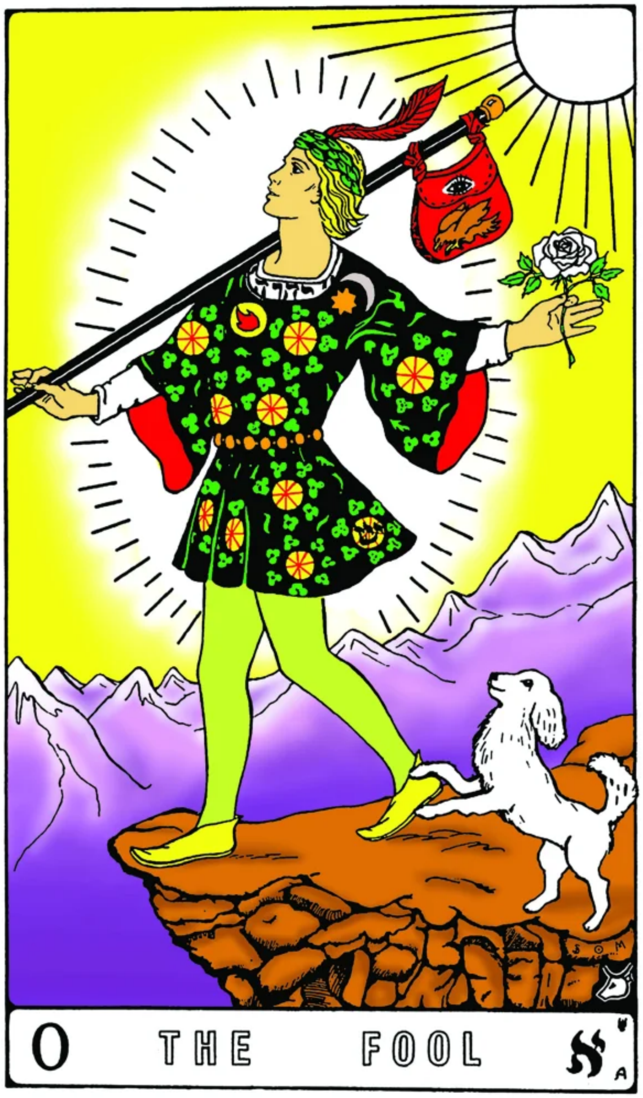
Others say it derives from Tarosh, from the Book of Thoth, of Egyptian origin, and that it signifies the symbolical presentation of universal ideas. Symbols on the cards include motifs common to the Rosicrucian's, the Masons, the Qabalists, the Egyptians, Pythagoras and the old alchemists.

One tradition is that a group of adepts from all over the world gathered at Morocco to pool their great Wisdom in pictorial symbols that would transcend the language barrier.
Again, we are told that the Knights Templar brought these cards back secretly from the Crusades, having taken them from the Saracens, and used them for amusement and gambling. Whether they were concealed to hide the fact of their theft, is not known.

Gypsies at about the same time began to wander around Europe, and they used cards for telling fortunes. Gypsies were first officially mentioned in English books of law about the time of Henry VIII, where they were described as an outlandish people, "calling themselves Egyptians, who do not profess any craft or trade but go about in great numbers."

A legend indicates that after the destruction of the Serapeurn in Alexandria, the large number of attendant priests banded together seeking means to preserve secrets of the rites of Serapis. Their descendants carried with them the most precious of the volumes saved from the burning library - the Book of Enoch, or Thoth (Tarosh). These later became wanderers upon the earth, remaining a people apart with an ancient language and a birthright of magic and mystery. This great library, by the way, burned for a whole week, wiping from memory much of man's recorded learning.

It is said in some of the ancient Egyptian initiations the initiate was led through a long gallery in which were hung life-sized pictures of all the Tarot Keys, and he was required to spend enough time before each picture to achieve some sort of realization of the significance of that Key. A legend still more ancient states that the Tarot teachings were brought out from ancient Atlantis. Obviously, these teachings were not limited to any single culture, and their story, if it could be fully traced, would be most fascinating.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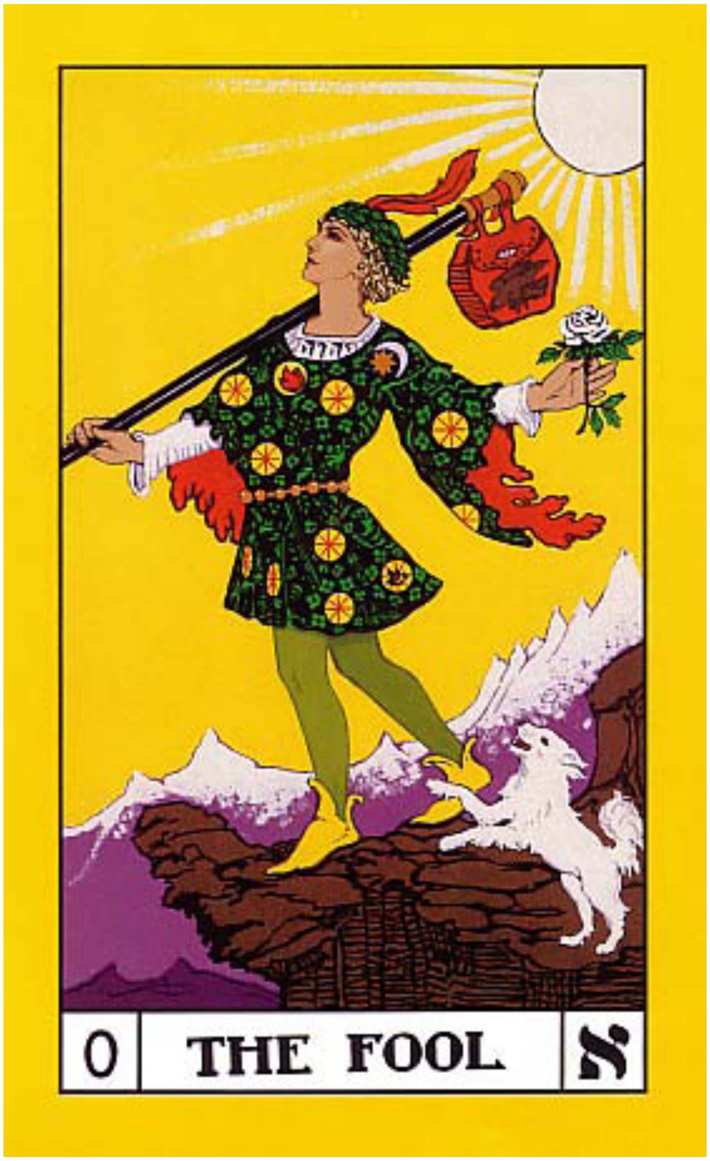
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Key 0
THE FOOL

Letter A Aleph - Ox

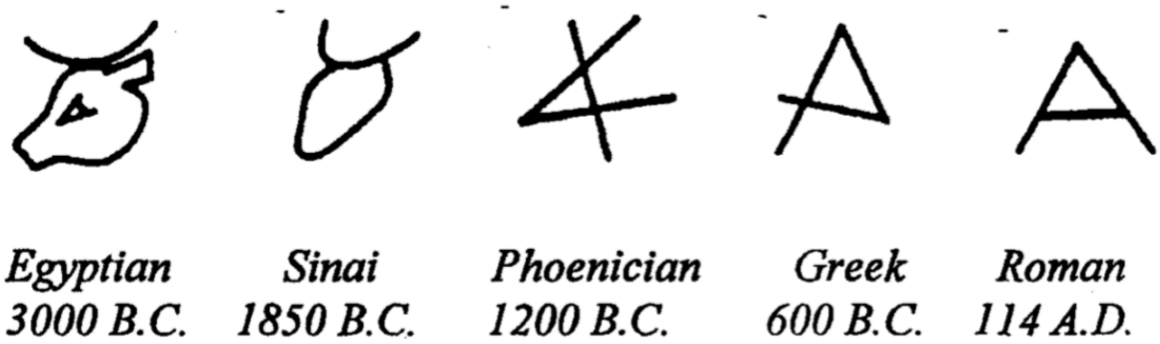
I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending... - Revelation 1:8

It has been said that the entire mystery of Tarot is wrapped up in symbolism of the Zero card called the Fool, whose letter is A. The Hebrew word for this first letter of the alphabet is Aleph, translated "Ox."

Each of the twenty-two major trumps of Tarot is correlated with one of the twenty-two letters which comprise the Hebrew alphabet, these being taken in order all the way through.

Why the picture representing pure Spirit and the element Air should coincide with a letter which means Ox or Bull is at first difficult to ascertain; for astrologically, the Bull is a symbol for the solid-earth sign, Taurus.

Yet, in the sketch below representing the evolution of the letter A, note the similarity of the Taurus symbol to the Sinai letter A. The alphabet was designed during the Age of Taurus, which covered a period roughly between 2000 to 4000 B.C. This was an agricultural era when oxen were a source of motive power and strength, as well as being sacred to certain deities such as Apis and Jupiter. The Indian god Mithra is shown mounted on a bull.



So, it was natural that this symbol should stand at the head of the alphabet in honor of their gods.

In the teachings of Tao and Zen, we find references to the mystical Bull which symbolizes the Eternal Principle of Life and Truth in action as well as Creative Energy and the taming of natural forces. The Ten Bulls of Zen represent a sequence of experiences concerning the realization of true Being, and the steps of awareness which lead to understanding of the Creative Principle.

Since the Zero Key becomes the first channel of force to move out from the Sphere of the Crown atop the Tree of Life, it is said to represent the Eternal Power which will continue to manifest in the remaining twenty-one Keys in a more limited form.

Because all the others exist in the abstract substance that is represented by Zero, it becomes their common denominator; for like the egg it resembles, Zero includes the full potential of all the others, but each must be experienced in order to unfold its reality.

In an older version of this Master Key, the Fool was depicted much larger and wearing the remaining twenty-one Keys spread out upon his garment in rows of 1,2,3,4,5, and 6.

Aleph stands above all and before all, poised, and ready to descend through all; for he represents the Absolute Unity of the All-pervading Presence of the Universe.

Before anything ever began, preceding all form or numeration, nothing was there - just the Absolute or No Thing. Even a Zero, which is the first symbol of nothing, when it is drawn or named, becomes "something," like a bit of the Radiant Darkness enclosed and defined.

This Key relates to the element Air as the Divine Life Breath of God. "Life-Breath" is the correct meaning of the Hebrew word Ruach, which is variously translated in the Bible as "the Soul," the "Holy Ghost," and "Spirit." This is helpful to know in Bible study. Latin Spiritus also means both "Breath" and "Spirit," as does the Greek Pneuma. Sanskrit Prana has much the same connotation.

As the number Zero, this Key represents the inhalation of the Divine Breath before the beginning of Creation, as an expectant hush lay over all the formless void before God spoke the Creative Word. In that Breath are all things contained which are to come forth, though nothing as yet is manifest; for in Breath is contained Spirit and in Spirit is contained Life.

Jesus said in John 3: 8 - "The wind blows where it will, and you hear the sound thereof, but cannot tell whence it comes, nor whither it goes; so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

Like the Cosmic Egg, zero represents the One Reality which precedes all beginnings, and sums up all things within Itself, thus containing within Itself the full potential of growth and development prior to "hatching." It is No-Thing in that one can neither measure nor define it. It includes every imaginable possibility of that to come while yet free from any limitation of form or attribute.

Some ancient myths tell us that Creation came forth from a Cosmic Egg. "The Swan of the Empyrean has laid the egg of manifestation in the darkness of the Cosmic Night." The red feather worn by The Fool symbolizes that king of the air, or bird of the Spirit, the eagle in action. In Egyptian symbology, the Feather of Truth, Maat, was weighed in the balance scales opposite the heart when the sod's judgment had come.

The Fire of Spirit descending into matter demands Air first of all, even as a baby is not really alive until it catches its first breath. And while life may be sustained for some time without food (corresponding to the element Earth), or without water, it could last but minutes without Air. When breathing finally stops, the Spirit soon withdraws, and the silver cord is severed which held body and sod together. The first form of radiant energy from the Sun which we learn to use is Air - controlled by breathing.

The yellow background relates both to the element Air and to the intellect - sometimes also to solar energies.

Uranus is the planet associated with this Key, and it relates to the unusual or the unexpected. Uranus tends to bring about sudden changes, especially when it comes to dissolving any outgrown or crystallized conditions which stand in the way of progress. *Ouranos* is a Greek word meaning "heaven," and Uranus was the grandfather of the gods and of the heaven realm.

Before a thing is manifest, one must accept its outcome on faith and take the plunge however "foolish" it may appear. "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." (1 Cor.3: 19) (Had Lot's wife not held back, she would not have crystallized.) There is no place for hesitation when the True Spirit beckons.

The word "Fool" comes from a Latin word Follis meaning both "bag of wind" and "bellows" (by which air is forced to stir up a fire). Paul was proud to be called a Fool for Christ, a wise fool, in obedience to the Light.

Here we are shown the symbol of Christ, the white spiritual Sun behind The Fool, showing from whence he came. He is as the Soul coming out from the Eternal which passes into the darkness of the physical body before returning again to the height.

This picture represents the inmost Self, standing on the brink of any new venture. But look not down, lest that become your destination. The goal is up, and there let your gaze be turned in order that every move you make, however it outwardly appears, becomes a step upward. The expected step into manifestation symbolizes the descent of spirit into matter in order to manifest in physical form or in some kind of action. The outcome will bring him to that still higher level on which his attention is fastened.

While he seems to have reached the end of his journey, we know that the attainment of any goal is but the arrival at a point of change, or new beginning of another enterprise. He represents Cause, the I AM within you, which sees fat beyond the seeming limitation of your present circumstances and brings the desire to improve.

The valley is the field of experience as well as the abyss or the "Mother-Deep" of Eastern terminology. There the phenomenon of Effect takes place.

The Life-Power he depicts is always at "the morning of its might," forever young, and forever poised at the brink of manifestation. The possibilities of this experience always transcend anything that has gone before.

He wears a white undergarment to show underlying purity while the white rose carried over from the past show's freedom from lower forms of desire and passion, along with cultivation I of pure spiritual desire. This appears to have been plucked from the rosebush of Key 13.

He has come from high attainment represented by the snow-white peaks behind him, and still taller ones lie ahead.

The little white dog represents intellect at the personal level. the Egyptians used a dog as symbol of the Intellect. Our thinking mind acts as friend and companion while we keep it pure, quiet and well-trained. But it must be kept under control and ruled, remembering that your mind is far less important than the Self of God within you.

The Fool carries a wand which is the symbol of Will and of measurement. Its black suggests the command or use of occult (hidden) powers. The pouch suspended thereon is his bag of memories - the summed-up essence of all his past experiences being carried forward, and this is all one can bring from one incarnation to another. The All-Seeing Eye, in place of a lock, says that we must use spiritual Sight as a means of unlocking its secrets.

As he girds himself with the belt of Time to come into dense manifestation, the colorful cloak lined with the red force of passion and active energy will conceal the underlying purity (the white garment) during his sojourn. He cannot remove this garment until he again removes the belt representing limitations imposed by Time-Consciousness and learns to live timelessly -- to substitute Eternity for Time.

The eight-pointed star and the lunar crescent denote respectively the solar (electric) and lunar (magnetic) currents of energy -- two modes of One Life Force.

The eight-spoked wheels on his garment depict solar orbs, or points of whirling creative Force prior to manifestation; for eight is a solar number. There are ten of them as there are Ten Spheres on the Tree of Life, plus one additional sphere of flame to depict activation of the heart center.

In another sphere is written the Hebrew letter Shin, symbol of the Holy Spirit. Around each are seven florets of green, the color and number of Venus, to suggest the activity of the Venus-ray in vegetation wherein Nature is bound, while the three-lobed leaves reflect both the ideas of Key 3 and the Trinity.

"Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise." (1 Corinthians 3:18)

HE IS SPIRIT IN SEARCH OF EXPERIENCE.

Key 0 - The Fool

The symbolism of the Fool is best explained by first considering the meaning of the Hebrew letter Aleph attributed this Key. Aleph means Ox. Oxen symbolize the motive power in agriculture, because they were used to pull plows, etc. Agriculture is the basic form of civilization. Thus, the letter Aleph symbolizes Cultural Power, Creative Energy, Life Power, the vital principle of plants, animals, and Men which comes to us in physical form as the energy of the Sun. This principle is also called Life-Breath. It is the Greek Pneuma, the Sanskrit *Prana*, the Hebrew Ruach, the Latin Spiritus. Literally these words mean "breath." Secondarily, they refer to the Spirit, or all-pervading Life-energy.

This meaning is substantiated by the title, for Fool is derived from the Latin follis meaning a "bag of wind." Thus, the Fool symbolizes that which contains air, or Breath. The number 0 carries this idea a step farther. It is a symbol of the limitless, unconditioned Life-Power. The 0 is shaped like an egg, hence it symbolizes that which contains all of the potencies of growth and development. Occultists will understand that we refer to the Comic Egg, and to the Ring-Pass-Not.

In the picture the Sun refers to the ONE FORCE. It is white to indicate that it is the Universal Radiant Energy which is concentrated by and radiated from all of the suns in the universe.

The mountains represent the abstract mathematical conceptions which are behind all knowledge of Nature. As such, they are cold and uninteresting to many.

But the melting of the snow upon the peaks feeds the streams that make fertile the valleys below. So will the principles of Ageless Wisdom feed your consciousness and make fertile your mental imagery, thus transforming your life.

The Fool is Eternal Youth. He shows that the ONE FORCE never ages, is always at the height of its power. His attitude expresses confidence and joyful aspiration.

The wreath around the Fool's head symbolizes the vegetable kingdom, also Victory. The wand is Will, the wallet Memory. The white rose represents purified desire. The Fool's garments consist of a white undergarment and a black outer one which is lined with red. White is purity, truth and wisdom. It is covered with the black of ignorance and delusion, which is lined with mission. action and desire. It is held with a girdle 6aving twelve ornaments, seven of which are showing. This girdle represents time, and astrologers will find the contemplation of this symbolism of much interest. The wheels which ornament the outer garment are eight-spoked. They symbolize the whirling motion by which the ONE FORCE manifests itself. The little dog symbolizes the intellect, the merely reasoning mind. He is a faithful companion but must have a master.

Key 0 – The Fool

Hebrew Letter: Aleph (א) – “Ox”
- Aleph means Ox — primal strength, motive power, bearer of the plow of creation.
- Symbol of the Life-Breath (Ruach / Pneuma / Prana), the vibration that animates all existence.
- Connected with the Cosmic Egg (0-shape), the “bag of wind” (follis) — Breath containing all potential.
- As a Mother Letter, Aleph corresponds to Air 🌬️, primal Spirit, unconditioned and sustaining.

English Equivalent / Value: A = 1
- First letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 1 = unity, the seed of all numbers, absolute beginning.
- Aleph is both 0 and 1: limitless potential and singular unity.

Cabalistic Intelligence: The Fiery (Scintillating) Intelligence
- Described as the brilliance before manifestation, the radiant spark of Spirit.
- The veil of pure energy, the scintillating current that directs creation.

Aspect of Consciousness: Super-consciousness / Eternal Youth
- Aleph signifies unconditioned awareness, illuminating both self- and subconsciousness.
- The Fool embodies Eternal Youth, aspiration, confidence, and the ever-renewing force of Spirit.

- Better to take one step in the right direction than a thousand in the wrong; the Fool is the courage to step into the unknown.

Astrology: Uranus (♅) / Air
- Uranus represents sudden inspiration, revolution of consciousness, and new beginnings.
- Air is the sustaining Breath of Life, the invisible Spirit that permeates all.
- Aleph symbolizes equilibrium at the equinox — balance of light and dark.

Seasonal Balance (Equinox)
- Represents both Spring and Autumn equinoxes ⚖️.
- A symbol of balance, renewal, and perpetual beginning.
- Keyword: Potentiality, Breath, Beginning.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟡 Pale Yellow
- Pale Yellow = dawn light, illumination of Spirit.
- Jewels emphasizes the Fool's garments carry the whole spectrum:

    - ⚪ White = purity
    - ⚫ Black = ignorance
    - 🔴 Red = desire / action
    - 🟡 Gold = solar will
    - ⚪ Silver = lunar current
        - Together they show the totality of life bound by Time.

Musical Note: 🎵 E
- Aleph resonates to E natural, tone of clarity and vital breath.

Path on the Tree: 11th Path
- Connects Kether (Crown) → Chokmah (Wisdom).
- Called the Scintillating Intelligence — the first radiant current of potential.
- Wang notes this as the "opening spark" of the Tree, bridging pure Being with the first differentiation.

Cube of Space: Interior Axis — Above to Below
- Aleph rules the Interior Axis linking Above Face and Below Face.
- Breath flowing between heaven and earth; the vertical current of Spirit sustaining all movement.
- Every ascent and descent in the Cube must pass through Aleph — the Breath as elevator of Spirit.

Alchemy / Metal: Uranium ⚛️ – Volatility
- Uranium = primal radioactive force, explosive yet creative.

- Symbol of volatility: Breath as subtle, life-giving, and transformative.
- Aleph is the baptism of Spirit — fiery Breath of the cosmic beginning.

Attributions:

Mother Letter: Key 0 A Aleph Superconsciousness Air

Number: Zero 0: This key relates to the Cosmic Egg, or undeveloped Potential of the All. "An ellipse, representing the Cosmic Egg, whence come all things. Zero is a symbol of the absence of quality, quantity, or mass. Thus, it denotes absolute freedom from every limitation whatever. It is a sign of the infinite and eternal Conscious Energy, itself No-Thing, though manifested in everything."

Hebrew Name: Aleph (Ox) In ancient times, oxen, under harness, were the primary engines for agriculture and thus civilization. The harnessing of a vital force for the purpose of creating some specific form relates to the role of super-consciousness as well. It is Superconsciousness which harnesses itself into human personality for the purpose of evolving each one. The various names for this vital principle (Ruach, Spirit, Spiritus, Pneuma, and Prana) all mean "Breath".

Letter A, in Hebrew "Aleph," which means "ox" - a symbol for natural Creative Energy and motive Power.

Numerical Value: Numerical value of the letter Aleph is 1.

Element: AIR, one of the three Mother Letters.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Scintillating Intelligence
This mode of consciousness is called the Fiery or Scintillating Intelligence because this One Thing from which all else comes is like radiant fire.

Path of Wisdom 11, the Fiery or Scintillating Intelligence, wherewith one comes face to face with the Cause of Causes.

Aspect of Consciousness: Super-Consciousness
Knowing ALL at once, simultaneously. The state of consciousness of the One Universal Mind, which is totally free and beyond limitation. The Absolute; The Causeless Cause of ALL; The Life Power; The One Force; The One Thing; The Limitless Light; The Primal Will; The NO-THING; The Undifferentiated Power preceding all manifestation.

Identity: Superconsciousness, or Spirit in search of experience. Pure Conscious Energy; Breath; Primal Will; the First Manifestation of Life Power, forever young.

Astrological Correspondence: Uranus

Planet of change, originality, sudden events, opportunities, the future, sudden upheaval and swift unexpected happenings. It governs all that's "new, original, different, and unorthodox." Uranus is an emblem of the "spirit unafraid of its individuality."

The planet Uranus, named from the root word meaning “heaven.” Ruler of Aquarius, or electricity, space, of this Age, and unfoldment of the God-given powers of Man.

Background Color: Pale yellow: Yellow color indicates radiant energy of Air, used in breathing. It is a primary color and shows Mental equilibrium; intellect; element of Air; Mercury: sometimes solar energy.

Note: Pale Yellow / E natural.

The Scene: A young person on a cliff is about to descend into the valley below. This scene represents the Life-Power just prior to entering into the valley of manifestation and experience. He gazes at the next higher mountain peak - a vision of the ultimate goal for any cycle of manifestation.

The White Sun: The Primal Will. "Kether" on the Tree of Life. The Life Power descends from this One Will when a creative cycle begins. Universal Radiant Energy, Kether, the Crown. The Spiritual Sun.

Wand: Symbol of Will and measurement. Black for occult powers.

Wallet: Summed-up experience. Essence of former existence. Memory. Soul. Subconscious.

The Staff and Purse: The staff symbolizes will and self-consciousness, and the purse symbolizes memory and sub-consciousness. Inside the purse, the Fool carries his summed-up experience from all previous cycles of manifestation. The Life Power uses these as it's tools along the journey.

Green Wreath: On head, binding of sunlight and Life-Power in Nature.

The White Rose: Purified desire. The White rose shows unfoldment of purified desire nature; suggests where he came from (See White rose in Key 13). The Fool's desires are pure and in harmony with the Life Power.

The Fool himself: He is the Life Power manifesting as Life. He is the absolutely free and perfect being that's at the core of each of us. The Fool is about to descend into the valley of physical space-time manifestation for the purpose of growth and experience.

Green wreath: On head, binding of sunlight and Life-Power in Nature.

The Fool's garments:

Black outer Robe: Over his inner white garment of wisdom is the black robe of ignorance lined with the red of passion and bound with a belt symbolizing time. The black robe is highly decorated and symbolizes the human personality. The message is that the Life Power dons the clothes of human personality and descends into the limited field of physical space-time manifestation. Human personality is but an instrument for the ONE.

White Inner Gown: Purity and perfect Wisdom.

YHVH: In Hebrew; Embroidered on the gown at the throat, is the Divine Name or Yahweh.

Eight-Pointed Star at the Shoulder: Solar, or electric, current of Energy.

Lunar Crescent: Magnetic Current. (Solar and lunar together: two modes of Life-Force.)

Wheels on Robe: Solar orbs. Eight spokes, whirling orbs of Creation.

Wheel - Triple Flame: One wheel contains a triple flame, correlating One force with Fire and Light.

Wheel - Shin: One wheel contains the letter Shin, symbol of the Holy Spirit, Immortality, & resurrection see Key 20.

Belt: You, The Fool, is girded with temporary limitation of Time, Space and the Zodiac. Of which you can see seven.

The White Dog: Symbolic of the personal intellect. Subordinate to Superconsciousness, it follows and acts as a helper and companion, far less than the true Self.

The Abyss: Refers to the subconscious, to Nature, and to activity.

His Face: His face is turned northwestward, the direction of new enterprises, and his consciousness never drops.

The Goal: To which he attains is higher than his present position, as shown by his gaze, but he must first traverse the valley of experience.

Color: of Path 11 on the Tree of Life is Yellow.

"Before Abraham was, I AM."

> 1 Cor. 3:18 - "If any one among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise."

🎨 Key 0 – The Fool: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟡 Pale Yellow
- **Path:** 11th Path – Kether → Chokmah (Aleph, א – “Ox”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟡 Pale Yellow
- **Meaning:** Pale yellow is the vibratory field of Aleph, the Scintillating Intelligence. It is the airy brilliance of Spirit’s breath, shining with innocence and unlimited potential. The Fool steps forth within this light, clothed in the pure vibration of mind before division.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit’s unconditioned energy, illumination, equilibrium, and the breath of life animating all creation.

🟡 Yellow – Mercurial Light, Air

- **Areas:** Background, garment circles (except flame in top circle), shoes.
- **Meaning:** The vibration of intellect, clarity, equilibrium. The airy principle, illumination of mind.
- **Symbolism:** Intellect, clarity, sustaining breath of life.

🟢 Green – Venus, Harmony of Nature

- **Areas:** Trefoils, rose leaves, wreath.
- **Meaning:** A blend of yellow (Mercury) and blue (Moon/Water). Signifies growth, desire, balance of thought and feeling.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, fertility, emotional harmony, love manifesting in nature.

🟣 Violet – Jupiter, Fiery energy in form

- **Areas:** Distant mountains (diluted, peaks snow-capped).
- **Meaning:** Mixture of blue (Saturn’s limitation) and scarlet (Mars’ force). The highest visible vibration, spiritual sovereignty.
- **Symbolism:** Spiritual power, truth, transition to the invisible.

🟤 Brown – Earth, Dense Mixture

- **Areas:** Eagle on wallet, precipice.
- **Meaning:** Product of red + yellow + blue. Represents Earth, inertia, density.
- **Symbolism:** Grounding, foundation, condition of incarnation.

⚪ White – Pure Brilliance, Spirit

- **Areas:** Sun, inner garment, dog, rose, eye on wallet flap, mountain peaks.
- **Meaning:** “Pure white brilliance” — synthesis of all rays, primal Spirit.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, unity, unconditioned Spirit.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Five-fold Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (mixed tones).
- **Meaning:** Union of red, yellow, brown, black, and white. Humanity as embodied spectrum.
- **Symbolism:** Humanity in diversity, incarnated Spirit.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Fool’s hair; eagle’s beak & claws.
- **Meaning:** Radiant innocence, solar power in youthful form.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, innocence, golden radiance of life.

🟡🟢 Citrine – Netzach + Hod → Malkuth

- **Areas:** Fool’s hose.
- **Meaning:** One of Malkuth’s four tertiary colors. Blend of Venus (green) and Mercury (orange).
- **Symbolism:** Victory and Splendor harmonized in the Kingdom.

🟨 Gold – Solar Metal, Royal Consciousness

- **Areas:** Star on shoulder, knob of staff, belt.
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection, incorruptibility, illumination.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, divine royalty, perfected Self.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection (light gray)

- **Areas:** Moon on shoulder.
- **Meaning:** Moon’s mirror, reflective and receptive.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, receptivity, subconscious awareness.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Feather, wheel spokes, flame in top circle, sleeve lining, wallet (except eagle & eye).
- **Meaning:** Dynamic force, courage, arterial blood.
- **Symbolism:** Fire, action, passion, vitality.

⚫ Black – Prima Materia, Occult Veil

- **Areas:** Staff (except knob & white strip).
- **Meaning:** The Primal Matter of alchemy; the occult (hidden), veiled mystery.
- **Symbolism:** Mystery, hidden foundation, fertile void of creation.

🟠 Orange – Solar Vitality with Mercury

- **Areas:** Subtle blend.
- **Meaning:** Warmth, authority, radiant energy.
- **Symbolism:** Enthusiasm, Splendor, radiant will.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Moonlight, Water

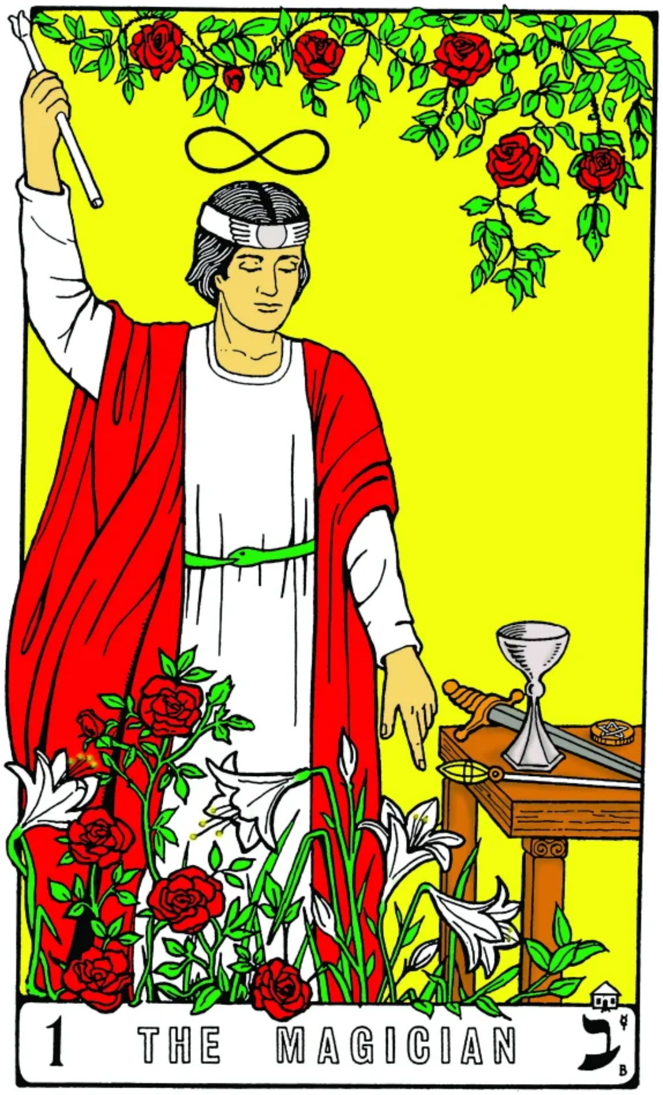
- **Areas:** Undertones.
- **Meaning:** Water, receptivity, reflection, illusion.
- **Symbolism:** Memory, reflection, subconscious depth.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Opalescent Wisdom

- **Areas:** Symbolic undertone.
- **Meaning:** “Opalescent gray” — translucent, shot with light. Wisdom of balanced forces.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, reconciliation, wisdom.

Keep the symbolic interpretation of each detail in mind as you color it. When your set of Keys is completed, do not permit others to handle them, or even see them. The one exception to this is that you may show your work to another student, or aspirant, if by so doing you can really help them. Even so, your Keys should be handled by only yourself.

Within the TAROT, special tools have been placed in your hands that can be used to extract treasures beyond price from the depths of your INNER SELF. The TAROT is a symbolic map of Consciousness. Meditate on it. Step by step it will guide you along the Path of Liberation.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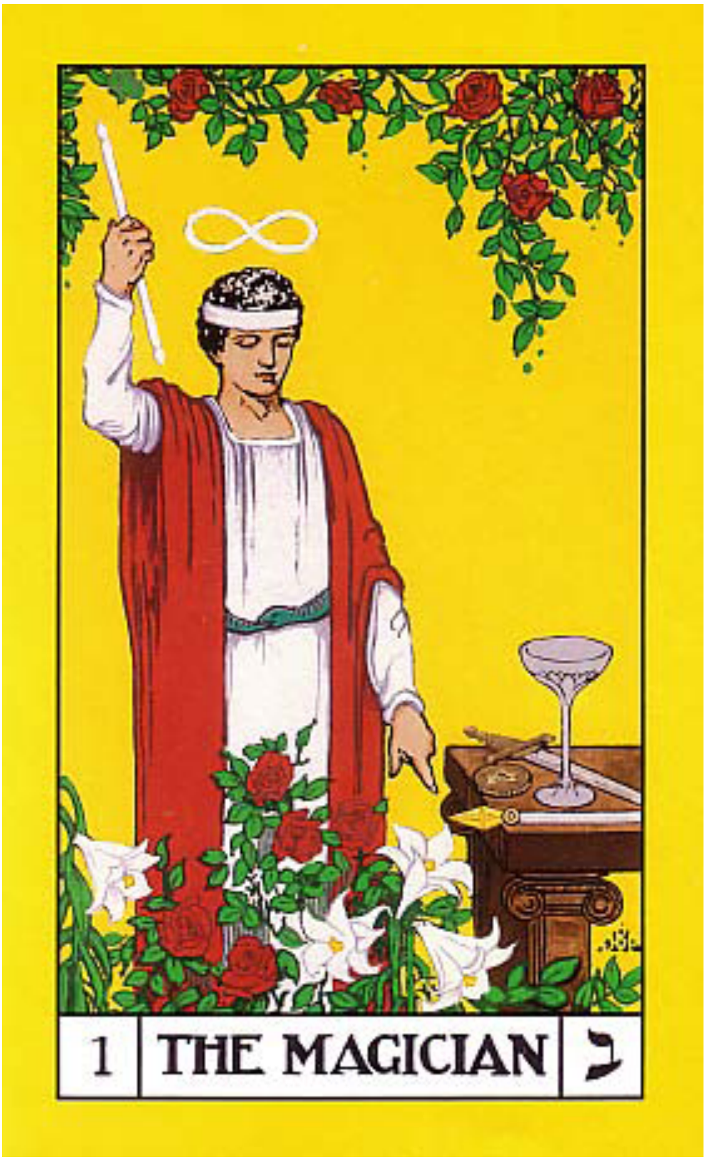
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Key 1

THE MAGICIAN

Letter B Beth - House

Beth is the letter wherewith Creation began, and its number 1, the number of beginning.

In reference to Genesis, we see the first creation. "And God said, Let there be light; and there was light." (Genesis 1: 3).

The Hebrew Bible began with the letter Beth, and in the same way, anything we want to initiate in our own lives must begin with the things this letter stands for.

That is because the Key called the Magician refers to pure Intellect, to the conscious mind and personality of an individual, and to the original activity and creative power of Man. Every action you perform must begin with thought, or mental aware- ness, and the energy to transfer that thought into action.

The Magician has also been called The Alchemist or The Minstrel in some versions, but his mission is the same. He represents the individual standing as a channel between that which resides above him, and that below.

At each step of these studies, we carry over the potencies of the preceding Key - in this case, bringing the Life-Breath of The Fool down from the heavenly realm to the sphere of human life. Briefly, Spirit descends into Matter where it proceeds to occupy or clothe itself with an outer vehicle - its house of mentality and personality while on earth.

Our thoughts are the real houses we live in. If we don't like them, we are at liberty to change or "move out" and make new ones at any moment. Your mind could be considered a homesteader staking his claim and if he dwells there long enough, that state of mind becomes legally his home.

Beth means "house," though a more ancient form of the letter depicted it as an arrowhead, because we aim our thoughts as arrows toward the goal of our endeavors. As a house, we act as habitation for the Divine Life-Breath.

One is told that "except the Lord build the house, he labors in vain that builds it." That which man attempts with personal or selfish willfulness carries with it no Life-Force but is like man-made machinery which abides a little while, and then fadeth away. For by blocking the flow between God and the goal, man has cut off the Source of Life from his efforts.

The Magician in this lesson is too wise for this. He holds up a white wand, the emblem of purified will, depicted as a hollow tube through which the Power from Above is allowed to flow.

The uplifted wand is a symbol of the sublimation of vital forces through a giving-over of one's personal will to the Will of God. The resultant influx of Power from above enables him to transform and transmute that which is below, himself serving as a channel of the Force, like Mercury, a messenger rather than an originator.

Whereas The Fool stood at a superhuman level above and before all things, The Magician is the beginner and initiator of all things in human terms on the level of man's consciousness. First, The Fool looked up to determine a true and ultimate goal which must be in accord with Infinite Cause in order to "work." (The aim of the Alchemist is perfected humanity.)

Next, as he occupies a "house" of mind and personality, he must go to work, first relating to that Source of power which is above before he can start. As Jesus said, "Of myself, I do nothing; the Father which dwelleth within me, He doeth the works."

It behooves us to take care what we think about. For negative thoughts and words provide the weeds for your own garden of life. This power of higher Mind goes to work on the automatic or subconscious realm where growth and development takes place, as in a garden - you know not how. You merely plant and water and cultivate. You watch and pray, and in time, the fruits appear.

The blooms here being cultivated show the active desire nature (roses) of human love and beauty, beside the pure-minded aspect (lilies), which are six-pointed, as the Star of David. These represent universal Love to which he is pointing attention. The roses number five because desire usually relates to one of the five senses while four lilies stand for the four primary aspects of Truth correlating with the four elements.

The arbor of roses overhead is a shelter achieved by the culmination of previous gardening endeavors. These have grown to such height as to hang overhead, giving him new incentive to keep active and continue work, as echoed also by the color red (action and energy) of his outer cloak. He will accomplish much as the result of his continual attention and prayer for right action! He has accomplished the work of the roses and is now directing more attention toward the unfoldment of lilies.

The Magician is related to Mercury as shown by the yellow color in the background. This color is also related to the element Air and the Intellect.

As the swift messenger of Mind, Mercury acts as a conveying element from one world into the other. He is also associated with Hermes, the Thrice-Great Teacher of occult mysteries and of the ancient Hermetic Wisdom. Quicksilver, or Mercury, is used in thermometers because it reacts instantly to heat expansion and again is symbolized as a messenger between the above and below.

This is the Master Builder and the original Alchemist, working with all his tools laid out in order before him on the architects' workbench or Trestleboard. These tools represent the fundamental principles- in Nature called the "the four elements"; that is, Fire, the Wand of Will and Energy; Water, the Cup of Knowing and Imagination; Air, the Sword of Daring 1 and Craftsmanship; and Earth, the Coin of Silence and of Materialization. He uses these to deal with conditions in his life.

The number One fittingly designates this Key; for "1" represents all beginnings and here is the beginning of action and creation. "One" also shows a single, upright figure, simple and direct. Being vertical, it shows action. His eye is single, for only thus can results be free from scattering or confusion.

He is the Onlooker, the Director, and our everyday waking consciousness. As you actively plant and cultivate all day long (not just at prayer time), stop and note the nature and quality of your seeds, moment by moment, for a clue to life-conditions.

Because the mind can really think of just one thing at a time, a program of "positive thinking" would leave little room for negative thoughts.

His white inner robe shows underlying purity of intent and the Light of Truth which enables him to achieve desired results. The white headband binds back and controls dark locks of natural inertia and ignorance which instinctively resist one's efforts to rise. The circle on his headband is of silver to suggest the lunar activity of the pineal gland, while the golden wings signify the uplifting power of solar energy.

Whereas The Fool girded himself with a belt of Time to descend into Matter, The Magician has bound himself with the girdle of Eternity, or Timelessness, and with occult attainment. His blue-green belt, the color of Scorpio, signifies sublimated serpent power.

Above his head is another symbol of the Infinite in the horizontal number 8. Both girdle and the number 8 are looking ahead to Key 8 (Strength) which shows the potential development of subconscious forces to equal those of the conscious mind.

The control and development depicted in all subsequent Keys can only come about as the direct result of taking this initial step. You have to start everything in mind. But when you are meditating, and feeling in tune with the Infinite, don't "jump back into the room" of your thoughts.

Key 1 – The Magician

The title refers to Man as the &rector of the force by which he transforms his consciousness and reaches the stage known to occultists as *Initiation*. The number 1, which is geometrically symbolized as a point, means *concentration, attention*, a limiting of the field of activity. This refers to the practice which is *absolutely indispensable* to all aspirants for Truth. Until you have learned how to concentrate you cannot perform the Great Work. Study this Key carefully and it will help you to learn to concentrate, for its symbolism was created to that end.

The roses of the arbor symbolize *desire*, and it has been wisely said that "desire is the motivation of evolution."

The central figure, by his posture, clearly indicates that he draws power from above. This is a central point of occult doctrine, because you cannot even begin to use the subtler forces of nature until you realize that you do nothing of yourself, but simply act as a channel through which the Life-Force expresses itself. His uplifted wand is a symbol of his ability to direct the natural forces with which he works; also of the Hermetic axiom, "That which is above is as that which is below." The horizontal 8 represents dominion, strength and control, and is ah the mathematical sign of infinity. The Magician's left hand points to the ground in the gesture of concentration.

The black hair bound with a white band symbolizes the limitation of ignorance by knowledge. The red rose is action and desire. The white undergarment, symbolizing wisdom, is encircled with the serpent of eternity. The table is the field of attention, which is the workbench of the Magician. The implements are the Wand, Cup, Sword and Pentacle. They represent Fire, Water, Air and Earth; also, Will, Imagination, Action and Physical Embodiment.

The garden is the subconscious mind which is cultivated by the acts of attention of the self-conscious mind. From this garden spring all of the powers of subconsciousness.

Lilies, because they are white and six-petaled, represent the abstract perception of Truth, as well as the cosmic laws and principles by which the universe is sustained.

Key 1 – The Magician

Hebrew Letter: Beth (ב) – “House” 🏠
- ב Beth means *House* — dwelling, container, the place where Spirit resides.
- Represents the “House of God,” the body as the temple of Spirit.
- Suggests polarity: interior ↔️ exterior, spirit ↔️ matter, invisible ↔️ visible.
- As a Double Letter, Beth is one of the seven “gates” of planetary power.

English Equivalent / Value: B = 2

- Second letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 2 = polarity, duality, reflection.
- Beth as “House” contains Aleph’s Breath, giving it form.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Transparent (Illuminating) Intelligence

- The channel of illumination, allowing Spirit to flow into form.
- The vessel of light between invisible potential and manifest reality.

Aspect of Consciousness: Self-Consciousness / Attention

- The focused will and the directing power of awareness.
- The Magician embodies skill, dexterity, and mastery of concentration.
- Conscious attention itself is the wand through which creation is directed.

Astrology: Planet Mercury ☿ — Day: Wednesday (Woden’s Day)

- Mercury = communication, intellect, adaptability, language, magic.
- The bridge between above and below; messenger of the gods.
- Governs writing, speech, and the circulation of ideas.

Polarity: Life ↔️ Death

- Life through conscious ordering of energies; death through misdirection.
- The Magician represents the razor edge of how attention creates or destroys.

Seasonal Associations:

- Mutable and flexible; the Magician mediates opposites.
- Embodies adaptability, swiftness, and mercurial change.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟡 Yellow

- Yellow = brilliance of focused intellect and solar clarity.
- Light of reason filtered through the conscious mind.

Musical Note: 🎵 E

- Resonates with Mercury’s quick vibration, frequency of clarity and thought.

Path on the Tree: 12th Path

- Connects Kether (Crown) → Binah (Understanding).
- Called the Transparent Intelligence — channel by which divine will becomes structured.
- Establishes the first “House” for Aleph’s Breath.

Cube of Space: Above Face (Top)

- Beth rules the top face of the Cube — the covering canopy of Spirit above.
- Represents the roof of creation, the House oriented upward to heaven.
- Consciousness looks upward, receiving illumination from above.

Alchemy / Metal: Mercury (Quicksilver) ☿
- Fluid, reflective, volatile, conductive.
- The alchemical messenger bridging Spirit and matter.
- Transforms by carrying divine spark into form.

Attributions:

Double Letter: Key 1 - B Beth Life & Death Mercury

Aspect of Consciousness: Self Consciousness
Knowing one thing at a time by limiting the field of attention through the act of concentration. The act of attention. Inductive reasoning. The normal human waking state of mind.

Number: 1
"Beginning, initiative, originality, unity, singleness, isolation", focus, single-mindedness; all properties of self-consciousness. "True concentration is perfect transparency, in which personality becomes a free, unobstructed channel for the passage downward and outward of the super-conscious radiant energy."

The number 1 is a single upright figure, being the first extension from a point. It is a vertical line, connecting Height and Depth on the Cube of Space.

Path of Wisdom 12. This is known as the Intelligence of Transparency or of Light, and "the source of vision in those who beholds apparitions."

Letter Hebrew Name: Beth (House). It means house, or Abode, and relates to the thinking apparatus and personality wherein we dwell, and temple of the living God.

Beth means "house", and what self-consciousness does is build the "house" of personality. What you focus and concentrate on, you eventually will manifest in some form. This is the magical power of concentration: it transforms and creates. Since the Hebrew letter Beth is a "double letter", it has associated with it the pairs of opposites “Life" and "Death". What you pay attention to; you give life to. What you ignore, withers from your consciousness. It is dead to you. Self-Consciousness both creates and destroys. Early versions of the letter "Beth" were represented as an arrow head and thus were symbolic of concentration and its ability to penetrate.

Numerical value of Beth is 2; as the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Transparent Intelligence
The Intelligence of transparency implies that Self-Consciousness is a clear channel for the Super-Conscious energy Above to enter the field of attention, below. Thus, it is super-consciousness, represented by Tarot Key 0 (The Fool) who is the doer. Self-

Consciousness merely serves as a channel, vehicle, or step-down transformer for the One Will to act on the lower mental, emotional, and physical planes.

Identity: Intellect or self-conscious mind. You as actor or doer of anything.

Function: Attention, beginning, initiative, concentration. Your mind is your magician, and kindler of the fire.

Astrological Correspondence: Mercury
Mythologically, Mercury or Hermes was the messenger of the Gods. He was thus “only the messenger of a divinity higher than himself - merely the transmitter, not the originator - the channel rather than the source." Astrologically, Mercury is the planet of mental activities, communication, and intellect.

The planet Mercury, messenger of the gods, and planet of the Intellect. It is identified with Hermes and Thoth. As Thoth, he works out the creation as decreed by the Sun god, Ra.

Background is shown yellow, signifying the element Air, and mental enlightenment.

Color / Note: Yellow / E Natural

The Scene: A man is poised in an act of attention.

The Magician: Symbolizes force intensified by concentration and projected towards a mark. He acts as a "transformer" to direct energy from above to below.

His garments: Red robe = action and desire. White undergarment = truth and wisdom. Serpent belt = eternity.

Outer garment is red, for he needs energy to act and begin the work.

Inner garment is white, showing the underlying purity needed for this work.

His headband is also white, indicating the light and purity which is used to bind back the dense locks of ignorance and inertia, its wings referring to the evolutive motion of Air, and to Mercury as winged messenger of thought.

The white wand uplifted symbolizes the sublimated reproductive forces, and allowing his will to be used as a hollow channel for the Will of God.

His white wand: Phallic symbol for the purified libido. He is skilled in the proper direction and usage of the desire-force.

His left hand: In a gesture of concentration, directing power towards the garden below.

The lemniscate (infinity symbol overhead): Symbolizes dominion, strength, control, and the Limitless Life Power. This Figure 8 over his head is a symbol of infinity, of involution and evolution.

The serpent girdle is a symbol of Eternity, and of regenerative Force. He accepts Eternity as the framework within which he acts.

The man's figure represents your house of personality as a center through which the Spirit of your own true Self expresses itself. You are a channel through which universal Creative Force is directed to planes below the level of human consciousness, and through which the transmuting and transforming power of attention takes place. Things are as we see them.

The Table: The field of attention. In order to make magic (manifest change), he must limit his field of attention to the task before him on the table and use the four mental tools thereon.

This bench or table is the drawing board of an artist or an engineer, his Trestleboard. The tools of his craft placed thereon depict the four elements or Principles in nature -- Fire, Water, Air, and Earth. These also depict the four suits of playing cards

The Magician was also known in ancient times as the Alchemist, or Juggler.

The tools are Fire -- the white wand signifying Will. Water - the silver chalice symbolizing imagination and knowing; Air -- the steel sword of daring and formation; Earth - the silent coin of dense materialization.

> The Wand: Fire. Initiating Will. The initial idea for something.
>
> The Cup: Water. Imagination, and emotion. Brainstorming and the flowering of an initial idea into many.
>
> The Sword: Air. Discriminating action. Discerning conditions and setting limits on the ideas in order to manifest them.
>
> The Pentacle: Earth. Manifestation. Physical work and the resulting products from the idea.

The Arbor of roses above the Magician's head: Simple form of shelter or house, meaning that the Magician is building the "House of Personality." Red roses indicate that the power which is drawn down from above is modified by personal desire.

Its flowers are the red roses which are also above, or human love and desire for action; they are five-petalled.

Roses: Are red, the color of action and energy. They also signify the desire nature. The roses of the arbor symbolize desire, and it has been wisely said that "desire is the motivation of evolution."

Lilies: The six-petalled lilies depict pure thought, and divine love. Their green leaves show growth.

The Garden below: The subconscious mind which is cultivated by acts of attention.

The Bible says: "Except the Lord build the House, he labors in vain who builds it."
"In essence God is one, and all forms are naught but transmutations and variations of a single Essence."

🎨 Key 1 – The Magician: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟡 Yellow
- **Path:** 12th Path – Kether → Binah (Beth, ב – "House")
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟡 Yellow
- **Meaning:** Yellow is the vibration of Beth, the Transparent Intelligence. It is the Mercurial brilliance of discrimination, clarity, and mental attention. The Magician works in this luminous field of intellect, bridging heaven and earth through conscious focus.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, clarity of thought, concentration of will, Mercury's light.

🟡 Yellow – Mercurial Light, Air

- **Areas:** Background, spear head, lily stamens.
- **Meaning:** Primary vibration of Air; illumination, discrimination, clarity of mind.
- **Symbolism:** Intellect, equilibrium, sustaining power of consciousness.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Foliage.
- **Meaning:** Fusion of Mercury's light (yellow) with lunar reflection (blue). Sign of organic life and fertility.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, harmony, fertility, the natural current of Venus.

🟦🟢 Blue-Green – Serpent Girdle

- **Areas:** Serpent belt or girdle.
- **Meaning:** Blended vibration of reason (blue) and growth (green), circling the waist as vital wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Union of thought and desire, adaptability, life-force.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Work bench / table.
- **Meaning:** Dense mixture of the primaries, symbol of tamasic Earth. The Magician’s tools are grounded in matter.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, foundation, the earthly plane of magical work.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Inner garment, headband, spear shaft, uplifted wand, lily petals.
- **Meaning:** Pure brilliance, Spirit’s unconditioned innocence. Lilies = aspiration.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, Spirit, innocence, truth revealed.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as the embodied microcosm of all races and elements.
- **Symbolism:** Humanity universal, Spirit incarnated in diversity.

🟨 Gold – Solar Force

- **Areas:** Pentacle on table, sword handle, circle at end of spear shaft, coin.
- **Meaning:** Solar vitality, perfected consciousness, incorruptible will.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, illumination, perfected individuality.

⚪ Silver (Light Gray) – Lunar Current

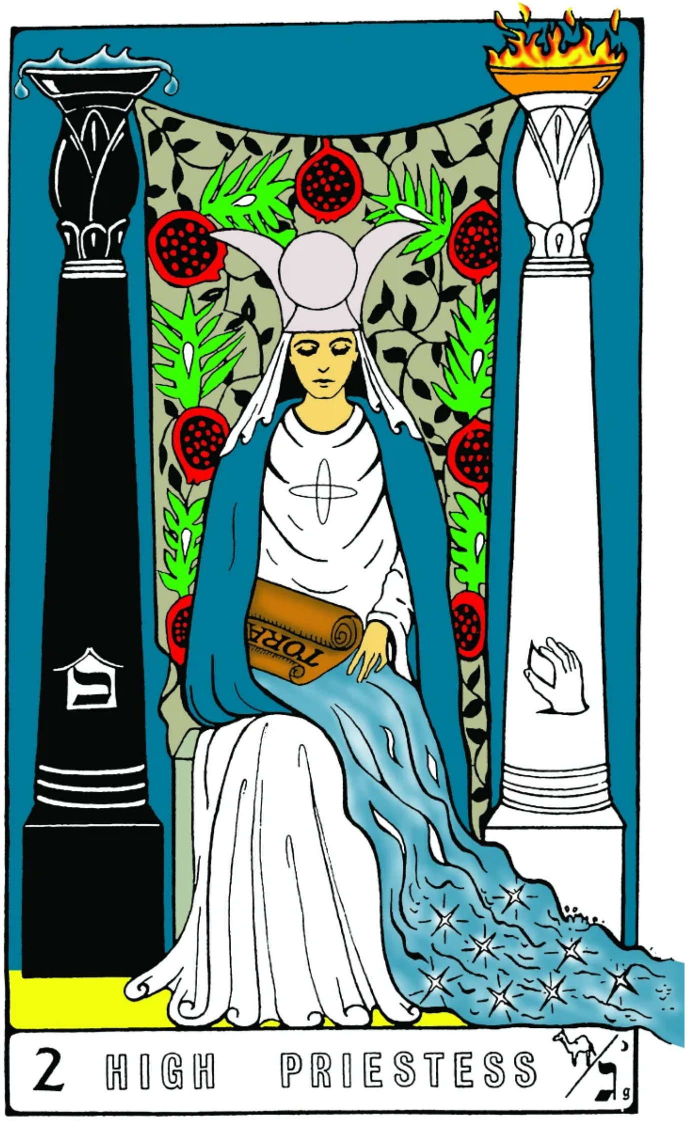
- **Areas:** Cup, pentagram traced on coin, circle on headband.
- **Meaning:** Lunar reflection and receptivity balancing solar will.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, receptivity, subconscious wisdom.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Sword blade (blue mixed with gray).
- **Meaning:** Discriminating intellect, sharpened and disciplined.
- **Symbolism:** Sharpness of mind, discriminating will, clarity of action.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Outer garment, roses.
- **Meaning:** Mars energy, vitality, life-force, passion transmuted by will.
- **Symbolism:** Action, passion, vitality, love directed into creativity.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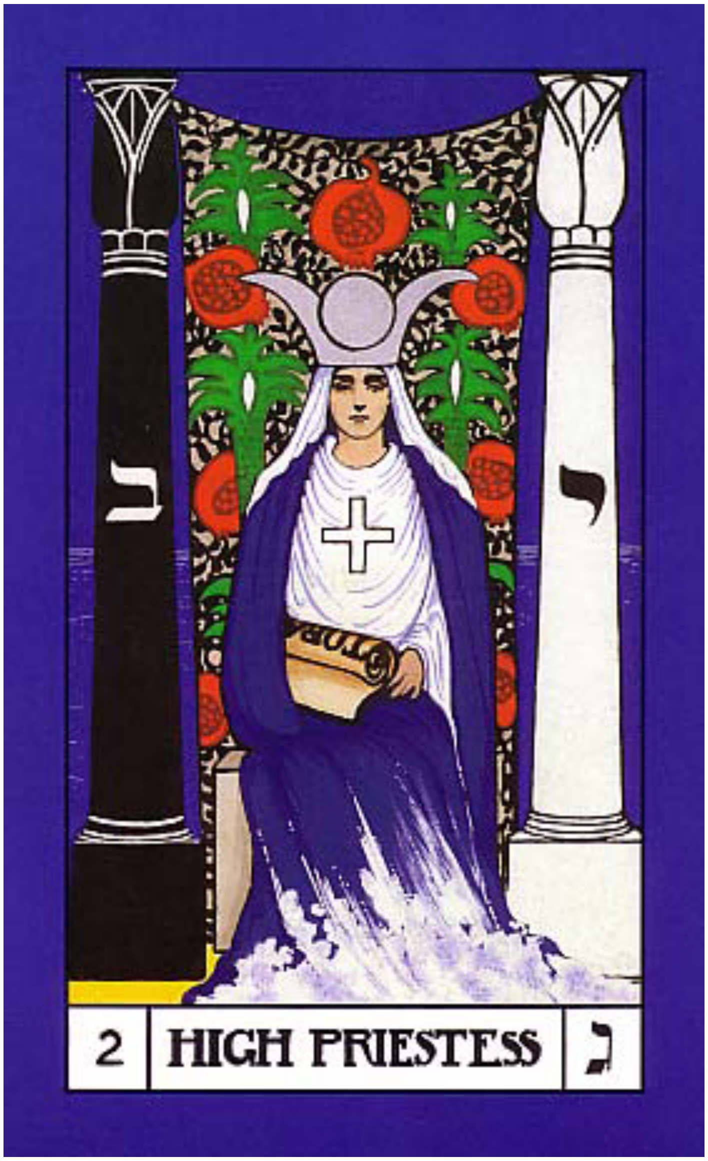
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HIGH PRIESTESS
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Key 2

THE HIGH PRIESTESS

Letter G Gimel - Camel

She sits as Soul within the blue of the temple walls, God's temple being Man.

"The world was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the 'Spirit,' 'wind,' or 'Breath' of God was moving over the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2) All are one word, Ruach, and refer back to the Life-Breath of The Fool.

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." (Genesis 1: 6) The waters relate to the Cosmic mind-stuff, or the universal invisible substance out of which all was fashioned. The High Priestess represents the virginal subconscious, or pure Divine Substance.

She sits with passive authority just below the level of conscious awareness. Though these aspects of her being are not always interchangeable, she represents at different times and ways, the Soul, the subconscious mind, the Akasha, and the Cosmic Mind-stuff. She is called the Mother-Root and primary principle of Matter in its virginal state.

From her gown flows the substance of Cosmic Mind-Stuff in rippling streams like water throughout the universe, and this is the source of every stream you see pictured throughout the Tarot series. The stream will terminate in Key 20, Judgment, where the substance has become at this higher level "fixed," congealed into "icebergs."

The color blue is used to symbolize this esoteric "water" which begins as a river of Light. Though invisible, having weight, it is called the "gravitational force of the Radiant Energy" of the universe.

She represents all virgin goddesses - Diana of the Moon in particular, Isis, and Eve before her marriage. She wears the silver crown of Isis composed of the waxing, waning, and full moons. As "Queen of the borrowed Light," the moon reflects the idea of alternation and cyclic phases. The crown also suggests the horns of a bull, and the moon's exaltation in Taurus. The diamond is a symbol of light and brilliance, or the Mystical Center. Here it is used to denote the spiritual force streaming through the pineal gland to activate the sight center.

This Key is called the purest and most exalted concept of the Moon. Its crescent cup shows receptivity and its meanings clearly picture lunar attributes, even to the number two. Two is most apt for this Key relating to rhythm, cycle, and repetition. It also suggests duality, duplication, reflection, memory, and polarity, or "twoness" - just as the mirror reflects the "one" back to itself, seeming "two."

The polarities - light and dark, positive and negative, good and evil, hot and cold, and all other opposites - are but two extremes of one idea.

Photography works with these extremes, bringing out a true printed likeness through the use of light and dark contrasts. Without contrast, there would be no picture. If all the black and white in the play of light and shadow were blended and united into gray, there would be no visible outlines. Yet, gray is the symbol of wisdom were shown in the Tarot, because the Wise Man no longer looks upon good-and-evil, but sees all as One.

The cameraman of the series is The Magician of Key 1. He, Conscious Mind, snaps mental pictures continuously throughout his waking hours. These pictures are impressed upon the medium represented by The High Priestess and in turn developed by The Empress, Key 3 - all within yourself.

She does not choose what pictures The Magician will snap therefore, negative, careless thoughts or worries take pictures as well as those carefully posed.

The alertness of our observations determines the clarity of the recorded experience. "There is nothing hid which shall not be manifested; neither was anything kept secret but that it should come abroad."

As a sidelight observation on the negative side of the feminine nature, an unwise person tends to unreel experiences at high speed in minute detail as though every thought and experience, however trivial, had to be told, whether the other person wanted to hear it or not, as though her function were that of an automatic recorder with compulsion to playback.

On the higher side, this function of Memory is necessary to the orderly working of the laws of nature, as they express in perfect sequence the Life Power from above.

This thread of consciousness which runs through the chain of our lives and links, them together may be compared to a microfilm record of all ow experiences, and their summation the condensed essence which our soul carries through lives. Gimel is also called the link between the archetypal and formative worlds.

All that has ever previously happened is held in her lap in the form of a scroll representing the Akasha (the Akashic Records) or Cosmic Memory. The Hindus sometimes equate the Akasha with sound, a primordial or Universal Sound out of which creation and the elements emerged. The musical notes in the background depict this. They also suggest air bubbles rising to the surface of water, like thoughts coming up from the subconscious to the conscious mind.

On the scroll is printed the word Tora, a Hebrew word meaning "Law," and representing immutable Cosmic Law. Her right hand is hidden to show that the more powerful activities of subconsciousness elude ordinary perception; for while The Magician works outwardly; she works from beneath her cloak.

Her seat of stone symbolizes union with the Father while its square shape is that of the cube, one of the symbols of earth. Because salt crystallizes into cubes, the term "salt" in alchemy refers to the element of earth, or of manifestation on the material plane. Salt is also symbolic of the "mystical sea of the Virgin," the great sea of Cosmic Substance.

Her throne rests upon the (yellow) foundation of 'mental activity, and is placed, one might say, in the Temple of Solomon, or on the Porch of Isis - both being symbolic of deeper truths. This picture draws somewhat on the Biblical symbolism of King Solomon's Temple. I Kings 7: 21-22 says:

"He set up the pillars at the vestibule of the Temple; he set up the pillar in the south and called its name Jachin, and he set up the pillar on the north and called its name Boaz. And upon the tops of the pillars was lily work so was the work of the pillars finished."

The lily work referred to in the Bible is shown here as a lotus bud at the top of each pillar to indicate the undeveloped potential of the subconscious mind. We see the initials of these two names, Yod and Beth, on the two pillars. The name Jachin means "He will establish," whereas the name Boaz means "in a strength."

The initial B, or Beth, on the dark, negative pole stands for the strength which stems from resistance, the inertia or negation which resists our efforts. Beth represents the beginning of an endeavor, which is rooted in darkness, as a plant rooted in soil. At top of this pillar rests a bowl of water, akin to the astral element active in formation, and to the receptive or passive expression of Divine Energy.

Atop the positive or white pillar stands a bowl of flame, according to ancient temple practice, and this symbolizes Spirit and the active expression of Divine Energy. Its initial Yod is called the Life-Principle and Divine Will. This pillar stands for the progress of a matter in Light, or the positive establishing principle of all things.

The white pillar is situated on the South side, or the side of Light, while the dark pillar is on the North, the side untouched by the Sun, hence, considered the darkness of the Unknown. Together, the message of the two implies: "In Strength shall My House be Established."

The Priestess seated between these two opposite poles acts as an agent of equilibrium, or mediator between light and darkness, and between initiative and resistance. The cross at exact center of the Key indicates the uniting of these opposites; thus, is this Path called The Uniting Intelligence.

A tree grows sturdier for the wind which hurls against it, being forced to draw on inward strength in order to resist, whereas overprotection would tend to foster weakness.

The same principle applies to using something against which to brace one's feet when making a great effort to lift a weight, or to climb. The block which one uses as a footstool provides a solid basis from which to reach higher and do better work. Abraham Lincoln once said he was grateful for his father's opposition to his efforts for an education because it gave him "something to brace his feet against."

The greater the temptation by which one is surrounded, the greater is the strength that can be developed by one who is able to resist. Man needs the external with which to evolve his soul until he has learned to evolve within himself.

Pomegranates were used on priestly vestments in Biblical times. One of their meanings is the reconciliation of multiplicity (the many seeds) within unity (the shell). Here the red pomegranates show feminine fruitfulness as the green palms suggest the masculine polarity, but their colors are reversed - the red normally being a color of masculine Mars and the green of feminine Venus. This reversal of color symbols is suggestive of the astral plane ruled by the moon and of a film negative where color is reversed. This helps to bring about the transposition into the gray of the veil - a color of Wisdom and the union of all opposites thus blending.

The Biblical pillars were set up at the entrance to the vestibule leading into the nave before the inner sanctuary. The veil behind the throne is the symbol of virginity, here referring to the virginal subconscious mind, or stream of human consciousness. The white veil upon her head suggests both purity and AUR, or Light - the "third veil of the Absolute."

The Hebrew letter Gimel, G, shown with this Key means "camel." The idea relates to travel and commerce as a thread or link between desert towns and settlements where the camel was once man's only link with the outside world, carrying news, goods, and learning. The obedient camel carried his own water supply with him - like unto the stream of consciousness. With the beginning or setting up of any practice, repeated performance of an art or ritual, thought or pattern, forms a thread of continuance which carries it forward into firmly established fact (or form).

As the camel squeezed through the "needle's eye," or a passage through the walls of Jerusalem, the consciousness must unload its pack of unnecessary memories, possessions, and habits to slip through the straight and narrow spiritual gate and to enter the Kingdom of Heaven - within oneself; for one cannot squeeze through a gate blocked by inward fatness, but must become as unleavened bread, free of earthly bubbles. The word in Aramaic is *gamla*, and means "camel," "a large rope" or "a beam." A large rope would likewise find it difficult to pass through a needle's eye.

"Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, Who coverest Thyself with Light as with a garment, Who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, Who has laid the beams of Thy chambers upon the waters."

Key 2

THE HIGH PRIESTESS

The astrological attribution of Key 2 is the Moon. The moon is a reflector of sunlight and thus is a symbol of reflection, duplication, (as in a mirror) and like idea. The crescent moon is cup shaped, and therefore, symbolizes receptivity. These properties are those of the subconscious mind. You will be able to see readily that the factors of reflection and duplication are essential to the faculty of memory, which is symbolized by this Key.

The universal substance has been called by some modern scientists 'Mind-stuff." Occultists have known for ages that the universe is really made up of mental energy. This primordial substance, known to the Hindus as Prakriti, has always been symbolized by Water and by a Virgin. The High Priestess is a Virgin, and the blue color that predominates in this Key, as well as the flowing robe, represents Water. The curtain behind the High Priestess is a symbol of Virginity. It connects the two pillars of light and darkness, and all other pairs of opposites, thus symbolizing the associative powers of subconsciousness. This symbolism of pairs of opposites is also carried out by the ornaments on the veil, which symbolizes the active and passive modes of the Life-Power's self-expression.

The symbolism of the stone cube is too involved to give here at length, but we may say that STONE is an esoteric word representing Union, Life and Wisdom. The silver crown represents the waxing and waning of the moon, thus representing periodicity, and rhythm. The scroll represents memory, history, the record of experience. The word TORA signifies Law.

Key 2 – The High Priestess

Hebrew Letter: Gimel (ג) – “Camel” 🐪
- ג Gimel means *Camel* — the traveler across the desert, bearer of inner resources.
- Symbol of the bridge across vast distances, linking the visible with the invisible.
- Suggests endurance, strength in silence, and the power to carry treasures of Spirit through barren places.

English Equivalent / Value: G = 3
- Third letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

- Value 3 = synthesis, mediation, birth of form.
- Gimel = movement between poles, uniting what is separated.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Unifying Intelligence
- Harmonizes opposites through hidden currents.
- Represents the secret channel linking the Crown to the heart of the Tree.

Aspect of Consciousness: Subconsciousness / Memory / Intuition
- The inner recorder — the vast memory of impressions and experiences.
- Keeper of the Veil, mediating between super-conscious insight and self-conscious awareness.
- Intuition as the subtle whisper that guides, when reason is silent.

Astrology: Planet Moon ☽ — Day: Monday (Moon's Day)
- Moon governs reflection, cycles, imagination, and psychic rhythm.
- Symbolizes subconscious receptivity and dream consciousness.
- Lunar light is reflected light — like intuition reflecting super-conscious truth.

Polarity: Peace ↔️ War
- Peace through alignment of inner forces; war when the subconscious is divided against itself.

Seasonal Associations:
- Governs hidden cycles, waxing and waning like the tides.
- Embodies rhythm, timing, and reflection.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵 Blue
- Blue = depth of subconscious, serenity, and inner truth.
- The pure light of still waters — wisdom concealed behind the Veil.

Musical Note: 🎵 G♯ / A♭
- Resonance of lunar vibration, echo of dream and memory.

Path on the Tree: 13th Path
- Connects Kether (Crown) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Unifying Intelligence — invisible thread harmonizing the Highest with the Center.
- This is the great Middle Pillar current — the inner bridge between Spirit and heart.

Cube of Space: Below Face (Bottom)
- Gimel rules the foundation of the Cube — the face beneath our feet.
- Represents the subconscious base upon which consciousness stands.
- Like the camel crossing the desert, it holds unseen reserves of strength for the journey.

Alchemy / Metal: Silver ⚪
- Reflective, pure, lunar metal.
- Conductor of subtle psychic currents, attuned to cycles and tides.

Attributions:

Double Letter: Key 2 - G Gimel Peace & Strife Moon

Aspect of Consciousness: Subconsciousness
The passive knowing of recorded memory and deductive elaboration. Subconsciousness is the mode of life which occurs below the level of our conscious awareness. Subconsciousness controls our bodily functions and growth. It has perfect memory. It controls all forms of life below that of human self-conscious awareness. It is receptive and thus subordinate to self-consciousness - it is amenable to suggestion. Subconsciousness has the power of deduction, in that it will elaborate suggestions given to it by the self-conscious. Subconsciousness exists at both the personal level (our personal subconscious mind), and at the Universal level (the Universal Subconscious, also known by various names such as: Prakriti, Binah).
Number of Key is Two. Carries the idea of duality, reflection, response, and repetition.

Path of Wisdom 13, called the Uniting Itelligence -- "the Essence of Glory, and perfection of the Truths of Spiritual Unities."

Hebrew Name: Gimel (camel)
The camel (a ship of the desert) is a means of transportation and communication which therefore connects and brings places closer together. So too, subconsciousness is the medium which connects all things. The Hebrew letter "Gimel" is a double letter and so has the pairs of opposites *Peace* and Strife associated with it. This is because harmony and conflict are both a result of the subconscious response to those things which it is in contact with. An ancient symbol for Gimel was that of a bow. Subconsciousness (the bow) is the propulsive force behind self-consciousness (the arrow).

Letter G, or in Hebrew "gimel," means "Camel." This suggests a link between places, commerce and communication.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Uniting Intelligence
Subconsciousness is the uniting and connecting medium which connects all things.

Identity: She represents the Soul and the subconscious mind, dwelling within the temple of God. Her blue background denotes unmanifest Sound.

Astrological Correspondence: The Moon
The moon (a ship of the sky) is a symbol for memory, rhythm, subordination (a satellite of Earth). It is also the symbol of emotion and instincts (subconscious patterns).

Astrologically, she also represents the Moon. She is also the Third Veil of Light, AUR, as shown by the white under gown representing Light.

Number: 2
Two is "a symbol of duplication, reflection, copying, transcription, reproduction, and so on, it relates definitely to memory, the basic function of subconsciousness. The number 2 also suggests the ideas of duplicity, deception, untruth, illusion, error and delusion. This is correct, because subconsciousness [(being at all times uncritically amenable to suggestion)] repeats and elaborates the mistaken results of faulty, superficial self-conscious observation."

Color/Note: Blue / G#

The Scene: A young woman sits receptively on a cube between two pillars. The key symbolizes the Seven Hermetic Principles (mentalism, correspondence, vibration, polarity, rhythm, cause and effect, gender)

The Woman: She represents the Moon goddess - A virgin moon goddess (Diana, Hecate, Artemis, veiled Isis, the Virgin Mary, and Eve before her union with Adam), representing cycles, changes in moods, instinct, intuition, impressibility, habits, memory, reflection, and receptivity.

The Scroll: The TORA - the body of divine knowledge and Law. The memory of all events both personal and universal (Akashic records).

Her Garments: The blue of her robe represents primary root-substance or cosmic Mind-Stuff, of which the Universe is made up. Blue symbolizing the Moon, water, and the primary root substance of all creation. The solar cross on her chest shows the union of positive and negative, (male/female) and is a form of the Hebrew letter Tav, which hints at the completion of the entire series of Keys. She is chaste but is receptive to her final union to come. From her wavy garment comes a stream of water - the source of the river and all pools of water in subsequent tarot keys.

Her crown is of silver, metal of the moon -- the crown of Isis with waxing and waning crescents, the full moon between. She reflects and duplicates as the moon reflects sunlight. The stars on her gown depict sunlight reflected on water.

The Pillars: Symbolize all pairs of opposites. White Pillar - yes, positive. Black Pillar - no, negative, Light and Darkness. The Priestess between as the equilibrating power between Initiative and Resistance

The Veil: The symbol of virginity. Subconsciousness is only potentially reproductive. Only when the veil is rent or penetrated by acts of attention at the self-conscious level may the creative activities of Subconsciousness be released.

The gray veil behind her is the veil before the inner sanctuary and denotes virginal purity and primal substance. The Wise Virgin. Its gray color reflects the Sphere of Wisdom, Chokmah, and the High Priestess is sometimes called the lesser Wisdom as the feminine aspect of all that the Life Power is. The color also refers to the union or the reconciliation of opposites (as black plus white.)

The Waters: Subconsciousness is like water in that it reflects and flows.

The element Water is indicated as symbolic of all these attributes, this Water being the source of all rivers and pools in all keys.

The palms (male) and the pomegranates (female) emphasize opposite polarities.

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The white pillar displays the letter Yod, initial of Jachin, the positive or establishing principle of Thought. Yod means "hand." Atop it is a brazier of Fire. Jachin was the father of Mary.

The black pillar shows the letter Beth, initial of Boaz, which translates as "in a strength." This Strength is rooted in resistance. Beth means "house." Atop the pillar is a basin of water indicating the passive polarity. Boaz was husband of Ruth.

Lotus buds near the top of the pillar show the potential in subconsciousness, latent undeveloped powers.

The cubical seat shows the solidness of material creation from which she works. Order and truth. (Alchemical "salt," earth, crystallizes into cubes.)

Cube and column rest upon the (yellow) basis of mental activity. The spiral-roll of the scroll shows the Life-Power's whirling nature, Erom the Center outward, while the scroll itself stands for the power of recollection.

Tora means "law." The laws of nature are the Life-Power's perfect memory of orderly sequences.

> "Faith is the Substance of all things hoped-for." See also 1 Kings 7:15.
>
> "The One Life only seemeth to divide itself, becoming two; that in the Divine Mirror of Mine own substance innumerable images might show forth."

The two great pillars called Boaz and Jachin symbolize the polarity in nature which is the means of productivity. Isis as the "world virgin" sits between them to show the Truth that is found between opposite extremes, or the divine nature of man crucified between contradictory influences. All action is rooted in the opposition of forces, whether physical or spiritual. Between these is the veiled entrance to the Holy Place of God.

🎨 Key 2 – The High Priestess: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔵 Blue
- **Path:** 13th Path – Kether → Tiphareth (Gimel, ג – “Camel”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔵 Blue
- **Meaning:** Blue is the pure lunar vibration of Gimel, the Uniting Intelligence. It is the color of memory, reflection, and the subconscious. The High Priestess sits veiled in this deep current, guarding the hidden knowledge that flows like water from the Supernal Mother.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, subconscious wisdom, intuition, the continuity of Spirit through form.

🟡 Yellow – Mercurial Light, Illumination

- **Areas:** Left foreground, streaks in flame atop right pillar.
- **Meaning:** Brilliance of intellect, illumination of understanding.
- **Symbolism:** Clarity, Mercury’s guiding light, sparks of comprehension.

🟢 Green – Venusian Life

- **Areas:** Palms (not centers), on veil behind Priestess.
- **Meaning:** Growth and fertility, life-energy rising behind the veil.
- **Symbolism:** Fertility, vitality, harmony of Nature.

🔵 Blue – Lunar Depths

- **Areas:** Background, robe, water in bowl on left pillar. Robe streaked with white like flowing water; gown left white over right leg and knee.
- **Meaning:** Flowing current of life and memory, the subconscious reflected in her robe and waters.
- **Symbolism:** Water, reflection, subconscious depth, wisdom descending.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Throne and veil in background (veil may be left unpainted).

- **Meaning:** Equilibrium of opposites, veiling of hidden truths.
- **Symbolism:** Concealed wisdom, balance of light and dark, mystery guarded.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Inner garment, cross on breast, head veil, right pillar, Hebrew letter on left pillar, palm centers, stars on gown hem, gown over chest and right leg.
- **Meaning:** Pure Spirit shining through symbols of initiation.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, unity, unconditioned Spirit.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of Spirit, microcosm of diversity.
- **Symbolism:** Embodied humanity, universal vessel of Spirit.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection

- **Areas:** Crown, bowl atop black pillar.
- **Meaning:** Mirror of lunar currents, receptivity and intuition.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, receptivity, subconscious awareness.

🟠 Bronze / 🟨 Gold – Solar Fire Transmuted

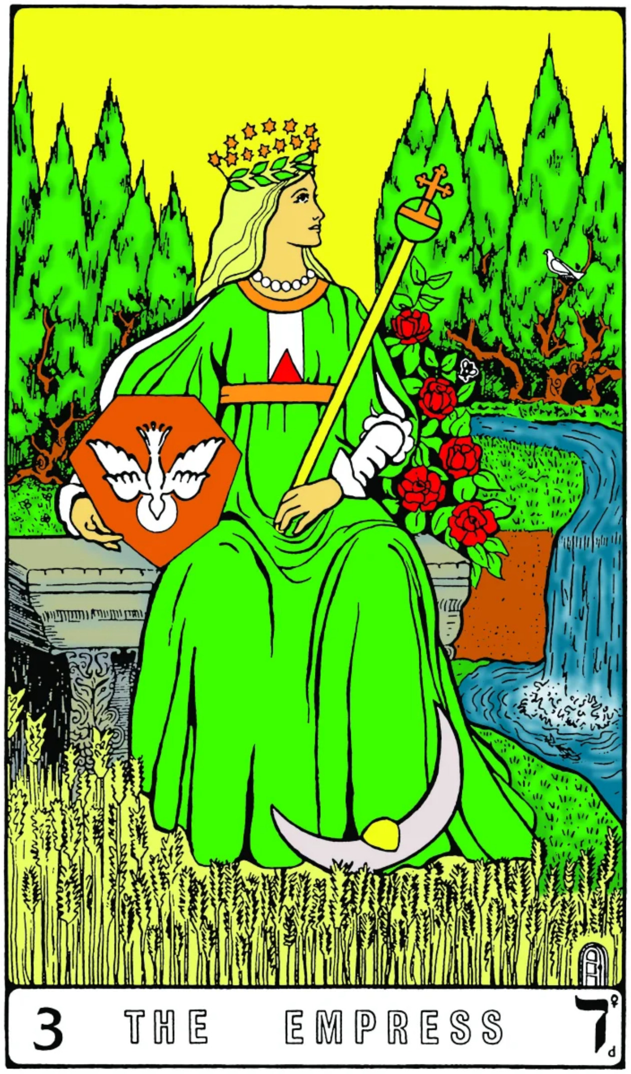
- **Areas:** Brazier atop white pillar (bronze = copper + yellow).
- **Meaning:** Fire of the Sun, balanced and tempered for sacred service.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, sacred fire, offering of Spirit.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Scroll

- **Areas:** Scroll (diluted to resemble parchment).
- **Meaning:** Wisdom inscribed into material form.
- **Symbolism:** Knowledge grounded, sacred teaching embodied.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Pomegranates (seeds deeper red), streaks in flame.
- **Meaning:** Creative passion and generative life-seed hidden within mystery.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, vitality, creative power, life in potential.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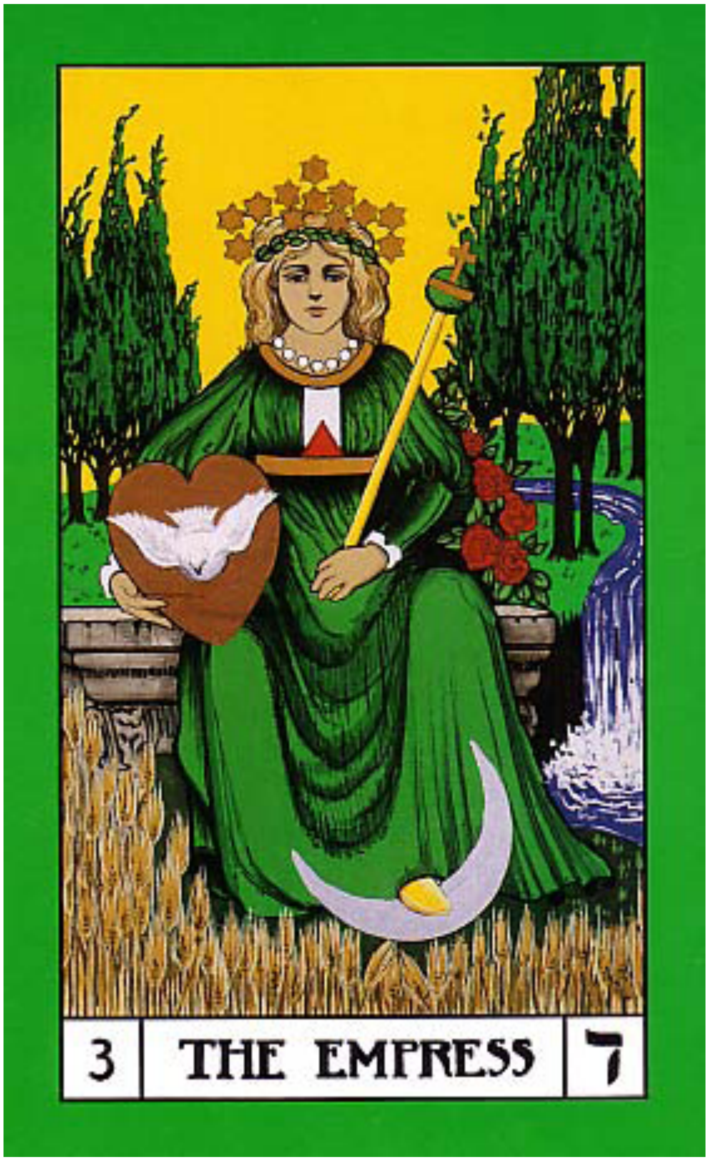
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THE EMPRESS
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Key 3
THE EMPRESS

Letter D   Daleth - Door

And a great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was with child. Revelation 12:1

The path of The Empress is called The Luminous Intelligence. She is the bright and shining one whose radiance stems from the solar light within, like the rays which cause the sun itself to be invisible to our eyes.

She refers not to outer activity, which belongs in the realm of her masculine counterpart, Mars, but rather to the more subtle inner impulse, and to subjective experience. In other words, she represents Venus as the principle of growth, the eternal urge to love, the desire to unify and harmonize all conditions, and to attract and weld together those factors which complement each other.

As Empress (a word derived from "She who sets in order"), she deals with order on the inner level and correlates factors within the subconscious to harmonize and balance them.

The river flowing in the background stems from The High Priestess' gown, and shows the underlying stream of consciousness now in active operation - water flowing

forcefully to produce a waterfall. A fish swims beneath the surface in token of the hidden life within subconsciousness.

Pearls are related both to the moon and to Venus; and their number, seven, a Venus number, also represents the seven chakras, here strung together in order at the throat area - again ruled by Venus.

The gold edging of neck and girdle indicate the solar forces which are an aid to her work.

The stone bench elaborates on the simple wisdom of the stone cube used by The High Priestess. Venus always elaborates on Nature, cultivating the natural so it becomes "Artistic," and transforming the commonplace into the beautiful.

A function of this Key is Imagination, or embroidering fact with fancy to elaborate the outcome.

Looked upon as a woman "with child," The Empress is called the power from which emanates the entire tangible universe. But growth here is all on the inner, or hidden planes corresponding to the subconscious mind. As Mother Earth, she depicts the inner pulse of creation awaiting the call of spring to show forth new growth.

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth and it was so." Genesis 1:11

The Virgin Mary is usually pictured wearing blue and white to represent virginal purity. But enroute to Bethlehem, she could appropriately have worn a green cloak. A green robe is also traditionally worn by the Patriarch of Zen Buddhism. It is the color of nearly all vegetation which covers the Earth, and of chlorophyll leaf-covering, which both draws sunlight to itself and emanates a substance back toward the sun in reciprocal action.

Copper, as the metal assigned to Venus, is also used for coins, and The Empress' shield is of copper. Its seven sides refer again to Venus with its rulership of love; for the higher aspect of love is The Empress' real protection. Copper symbolizes the desire nature which negatively based may act as the tempter, but when positive helps pull one toward redemption. The seventh Sphere on the Tree of Life, called Victory, is that of Venus.

This shield, over a period of time, has been variously shown, but we have chosen the winged heart, because the heart is a symbol of the mystic spiritual center within man. It came to be associated with love due to the importance of love in the mystical teachings of unity, though the heart is actually related to the sun, rather than to Venus. It was said by the old philosophers that the heart takes precedence over the brain as the true seat of intelligence.

The wings indicate spiritual elevation, adding a higher, active quality to the symbol. Wings are sometimes used to denote imagination, in keeping with the function of this Key.

A red triangle over her heart (emphasizing the number 3 of the card) shows the Law being activated, the outcome not yet manifest. The Greek letter Delta is drawn as a triangle, and corresponds to our letter D, or in Hebrew Daleth. Also, the letter of this Key, Daleth, translates as "Door" - specifically the leaf of a door.

The door indicated here is the passageway between worlds, even as the womb is called the door to physical life. As the means of exit and entrance between inner and outer life, it swings either way. Love itself is a great door to the hearts of others.

The symbol for Venus, shows a circle above a cross, or spirituality taking precedence over matter. It is also used in biology and medicine to symbolize the feminine principle.

The Empress is holding a scepter of authority shaped like an upside- down Venus, or literally a Mars symbol. Her authority, at this level, is based upon the potential of motherhood, as indicated by the position of the scepter.

The red masculine color of Mars used for the triangle and the roses of love and desire shows that an actual detectable energy is at work in the midst, of all the underlying automatic growth.

The direction East denoted by this Key, intimates the rising point of higher consciousness. This is the place of sunrise, and Venus is called the "bright and morning star," being the brightest of planets, the nearest to Earth, and so near the sun that it can only be seen at sunrise or sunset. Its orbit is just inside that of Earth. The Empress provides the Portal and Gateway of the Sun.

The fact that she is crowned with twelve stars represents the influence of the twelve signs of the zodiac through which celestial forces and modes of Cosmic Activity pour energy into her atmosphere. These twelve are shaped as six-pointed Stars of David ("Beloved") showing the workings of "above" to be like unto those "below."

The moon under her feet indicates accomplishment of those things it represents - the underlying powers of subconsciousness and her intellectual (yellow or Mercurial) understanding thereof, the yellow background also shows that behind her is the power of intellect which proceeds from the Magician.

Cypress trees were anciently sacred in worship of the goddess Venus, and the evergreen myrtle leaves woven into a wreath for her head was also a symbol of love. There are ten cypress trees, indicating the ten Sephiroth. The dove in one of the trees is also a symbol of Venus, of peace and the Holy Spirit.

Wheat ears show the multiplication of seed in growth and increase, as well as her relation to Earth goddesses such as Ceres and Isis, which she also represents.

The bee in Egyptian hieroglyphics was related to royalty, because of the organization of the hive. It also signifies wealth and industry, while the sweetness of honey is suggestive of Venus. Bees were sometimes used in Christian symbolism to represent the virtues of Mary.

Whereas The Fool depicts a state just preceding manifestation at the Cosmic level, or Spirit itself about to enter matter, The Empress represents the Door and the process through which that Life must pass to enter the physical realm. It has been said: "All intellectual light, like all physical light, comes from the East."

Key 3
THE EMPRESS

Fundamentally this Key represents *Creative Imagination*. Ail of its symbolism refers basically to reproduction, multiplication and growth. In direct contrast to the virginal High Priestess, the Empress is a pregnant matron. She is Venus, goddess of Love, Beauty, Growth and Fruitfulness. She is the GREAT MOTHER principle in nature. She represents the activity of the subconscious mind.

The stream and waterfall symbolize the stream of consciousness. It flows from the robe of the High Priestess, as do all of the streams pictured in the TAROT. The water falling into the pool is again a representation of the positive and negative potencies of the Life-Force. These potencies are also symbolized by the scepter of the Empress. The heart and dove, pearls, wheat and trees are all Venusian symbols. The necklace of seven pearls symbolizes the astrological planets and the twelve stars I about her head represent the twelve signs of the zodiac.

Key 3 – The Empress

Hebrew Letter: Daleth (ד) – “Door” 🚪
- ד Daleth means *Door* — an opening, a gateway, a passage between realms.
- Symbol of entrance into manifestation; the threshold through which Spirit becomes nature.
- As a Double Letter, Daleth embodies polarity: wisdom ↔️ folly, the choice of what enters the gate.

English Equivalent / Value: D = 4
- Fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 4 = order, foundation, the square, stability.
- Daleth = the doorway through which the One becomes the many.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Luminous Intelligence
- The intelligence that emanates the brilliance of creation.
- Serves as the radiance that allows forms to appear in the light of mind.

Aspect of Consciousness: Imagination / Creative Matrix
- The faculty of creative visualization.
- The Empress is the fertile womb, mother-substance, and beauty of form.
- Imagination is the door by which higher ideas enter manifestation.

Astrology: Planet Venus ♀ — Day: Friday (Freya's Day)
- Venus rules love, beauty, fertility, attraction, and harmony.
- Governs the principle of cohesion — the binding power of affection and form.

Polarity: Wisdom ↔️ Folly
- Wisdom is the fruitful use of imagination; folly is its distortion into illusion.

Seasonal Associations:
- Venus governs springtime abundance, blossoming, and the flowering of life.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟢 Green
- Green = nature, growth, fertility, balance, harmony.
- The Empress as the fertile ground and generative life-force.

Musical Note: 🎵 F♯ / G♭
- Resonates with the harmonizing power of Venus, tone of beauty and cohesion.

Path on the Tree: 14th Path
- Connects Chokmah (Wisdom) → Binah (Understanding).
- Called the Luminous Intelligence — radiant current uniting Father and Mother.
- The "door" through which supernal wisdom passes into understanding.

Cube of Space: East Face
- Daleth rules the face of the Cube looking East — the place of sunrise.
- Represents the gateway of dawn, entrance of light into the world.
- The door of imagination through which Spirit rises into form.

Alchemy / Metal: Copper ⚙️ (Venus)
- Warm, conductive, harmonizing.
- Associated with love, beauty, fertility, and creative magnetism.

Attributions:

Double Letter: Key 3 - D Daleth Wisdom & Folly Venus

Aspect of Consciousness: Creative Imagination:
The active creation of mental images based upon the elaboration and multiplication of initial seed thoughts or premises. Mental creation and imagination are analogous to sexual reproduction where self-conscious suggestions are the seed thoughts which are multiplied and gestated in the subconscious mind and emerge once again into self-conscious awareness as thoughts, ideas, images, feelings, and desires. Imagination and Desire are closely related. Desire impacts the nature and quality of our imagination. Also, as one directs the image making, one controls and directs desire.

Key Number 3 denotes increase, productivity, growth, and understanding.

Path of Wisdom 14, operating between Chokmah and Binah, is called the Luminous Intelligence, and the foundation of holiness.

Hebrew Name: Daleth (door, womb)
A door or gate is an opening and passageway which both admits and bars passage. A door or gate has the following associations: "defense, protection, preservation, conservation, [...] ingress and egress, transmission, diffusion, dissemination, division, partition, administration". Daleth is also symbolic of the womb, the gateway of life.

As a double letter, Daleth is attributed to the opposites of Wisdom and Folly. Our ideas and mental creations may be wise or foolish depending upon both the quality of the initial seed thought or premise, and upon our subconscious response.

Letter D, in Hebrew Daleth, (in Greek Delta) means "Door," that which permits passage, ingress and egress; in or out. The numerical value of Daleth is 4, the fourth letter. The gateway of form is the portal through which Life enters the realm of limited creation.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Luminous Intelligence
Creative Imagination, images, and ideas which emerge from subconsciousness into self-conscious awareness are illuminating. You get an "idea" and the light bulb turns on.

Identity: The Empress is Mother of Ideas, the generatrix of mental images. She represents the productive aspect of the subconscious and, as the womb, represents the doorway to this world.

The direction East - point of sunrise, the dawn of higher consciousness.

Yellow background denotes a condition proceeding from thought. Astrologically, the planet Venus, beauty, fruitfulness, and growth.

Astrological Correspondence: Venus
Venus is the planet of love and pleasure. Venus presides over love, child birth, art, beauty, adornment and decoration, fruitfulness, growth, affection, and friendship.

Number: 3
Three is symbolic of "Multiplication, development, growth, unfoldment, therefore expression."[3]

Color / Note: Green / F#

The Scene: A matronly woman sits amidst a garden of growing wheat.

The Empress: She is Venus, goddess of Love, Beauty, Growth, and Fruitfulness, and she is pregnant. She's the result of the union of the Magician (self-consciousness) and the High Priestess (subconsciousness). She is the feminine Mother principle continuously giving birth to form.

Her Crown: Contains twelve stars representing the twelve signs of the Zodiac. This symbolizes that subconsciousness, while influenced by suggestions from self-consciousness, is also open to the influx of power from the Super-Conscious level.

The Pearl Necklace: Pearls are the Venus and the Moon, seven of them for the original planets, strung in order at the door of the throat, belonging to Venus. Symbolizes the seven interior stars or chakras. They are strung in order at the throat level, meaning that it's at the Venus (Love) center that the seven interior stars are brought into orderly correlation so that the forces flowing through them may be controlled. The Empress is she who sets in order, and she establishes this order and control through Love.
The scepter shows the globe of this world, or dominion over the physical plane surmounted by a cross. The Venus symbol, upside down.

The heart shaped Shield: The copper shield of Venus' metal denotes love as her defense, and the desire nature whose negative trend led to the fall. Positively used, this force is the urge-to-good which brings about redemption. It has seven sides to show the number of Venus. The white eagle is a symbol of regeneration. She lovingly protects her children, motivated by unconditional Love. Creative Imagination protects, like the protective womb, gestating and then giving birth.

The Ripened Wheat: Wheat shows the multiplication of original seed. Growth. The completion of a cycle of growth where previous seed forms have been multiplied.

Yellow hair shows radiant energy, bound by the green leaves of Cosmic energy working at subconscious level.

Stars of the crown are six-pointed, to show attainment in using laws of the macrocosm. Twelve of them signify the zodiac, or 12 modes of energy by which she is influenced. Celestial forces.

Waist and neckline edged in gold -- "clothed with the Sun." The green of her gown is Venus' color, a combination of the Mercury-yellow, and the Moon-blue, to produce Venus-green, "sea-born."

The red triangle is a Greek letter, Delta. It also suggests universal energy operating through the Law of the Triangle in the heart area.

Wheat shows the multiplication of original seed. Growth.

The Seat: Ornate - symbolizing that Art is the result of imagination. The Stone bench is an artistic "improvement on nature."

> "And a great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars…" Revelations 12

Green is a color of symmetry and balance, occupying the central position in the solar spectrum, midway between hot fiery red and cold electrical violet. Thus, it symbolizes peace, and harmony, further attributes of Venus as well as growth and abundance. Green is the color most used in nature for vegetation, which has a healthy effect of purifying the air.

Cypress trees are sacred to Venus, as are the evergreen myrtle leaves forming the wreath on her head, also tokens of immortality.

On the Tree of Life, green is the color of the Venus Sphere called Victory, which relates to the desire nature.

The Stream and Waterfall: Stream symbolizes libido which is modified and directed by the Magician. Waterfall shows the interpenetrating Ying/Yang interaction.

🎨 Key 3 – The Empress: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟢 Emerald Green
- **Path:** 14th Path – Chokmah → Binah (Daleth, ד – “Door”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟢 Emerald Green

- **Meaning:** Emerald green is the vibration of Venus, Daleth the Door of creation. It is the harmony of Nature, blending intellect (yellow) and feeling (blue) into living fertility. The Empress is clothed in the green field of life, revealing creative intelligence and the fertile womb of Nature.
- **Symbolism:** Fertility, love, beauty, harmony, the life-force of creation.

🟡 Yellow – Mercurial Illumination

- **Areas:** Slipper, staff of scepter.
- **Meaning:** Light of intellect guiding her authority.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, clarity, mental focus.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Foliage, grass, wreath, robe (except cuffs, girdle, collar edging, and panel), ball on scepter.
- **Meaning:** Venusian current of fertility, natural abundance, and harmony.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, desire fulfilled, fertility, harmony of Nature.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Waters

- **Areas:** Stream, waterfall, irises of eyes.
- **Meaning:** Water of life, continuity of Spirit flowing into form.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, subconscious flow, vitality of life.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Tree trunks, sandy slope beside waterfall.
- **Meaning:** Dense matter, the natural ground of manifestation.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, stability, earthy support of growth.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Stone bench.
- **Meaning:** Throne of balanced wisdom, poised between opposites.
- **Symbolism:** Equilibrium, stability, wisdom in polarity.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Stars, collar edging, girdle, cross and bar on scepter.
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection, vitality, illumination.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, illumination, divine vitality.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection

- **Areas:** Crescent.
- **Meaning:** Intuitive receptivity, lunar complement to solar fire.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, receptivity, subconscious wisdom.

🟤🟨 Copper – Venusian Metal

- **Areas:** Shield (except symbol). Copper is a blend of gold, red, and brown.
- **Meaning:** Sacred metal of Venus, embodying harmony and attraction.
- **Symbolism:** Desire, balance, beauty, harmony in matter.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Hair, wheat ears.
- **Meaning:** Ripening power of the Sun, golden harvest.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, fruitfulness, abundance.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

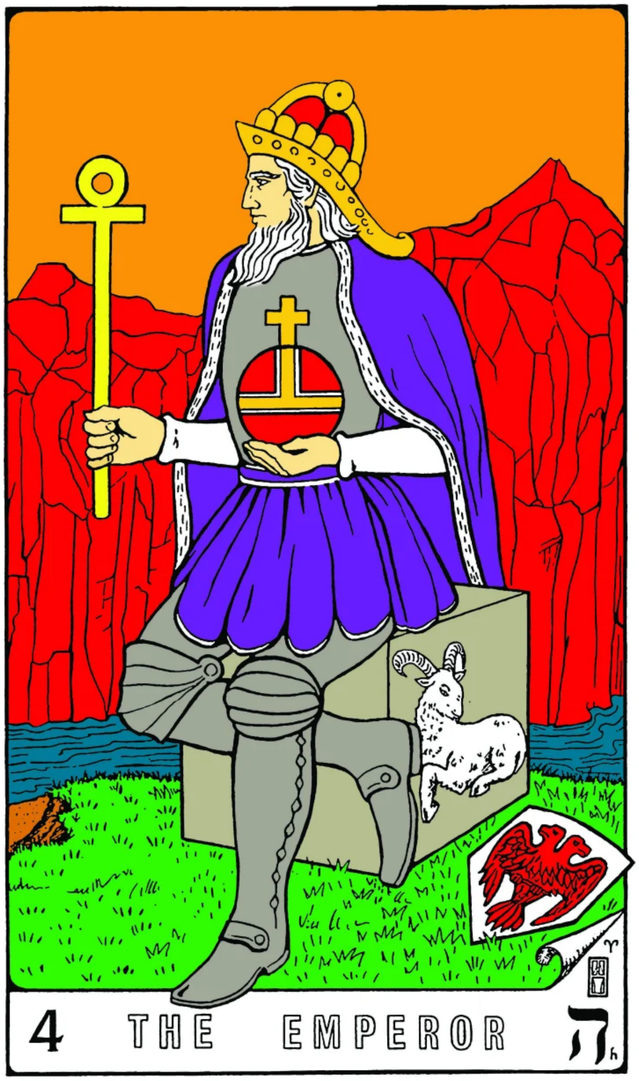
- **Areas:** Pearls, panel in dress, cuffs, symbol on shield, highlights in waterfall.
- **Meaning:** Unconditioned Spirit shining in her garments and symbols.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, clarity, innocence, Spirit unconditioned.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as the vessel of Spirit, embodying the rainbow of races.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, incarnation of Spirit.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Roses, triangle on breast.
- **Meaning:** Creative passion and life-force energy.
- **Symbolism:** Love, passion, generative power, desire transformed into creation.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THE EMPEROR
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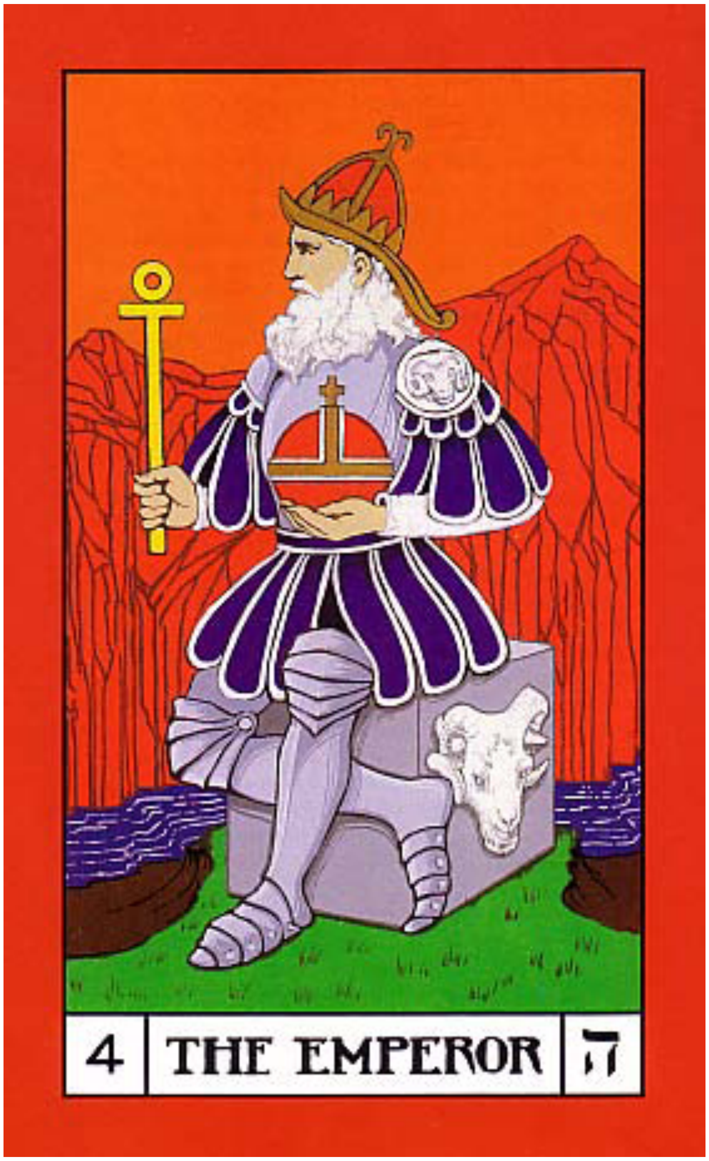
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Key 4
THE EMPEROR

Letter E, or silent H Heh - Window

I utter Myself by Seeing.

The Empress in the previous Key was shown exercising passive but loving control over growth and formation in the unseen realm. Things have to develop within before they show externally. But when anything manifests, or becomes outwardly visible, the conscious mind takes over the authority. Only after she has presented him with a child can he act in the capacity of a father, taking the responsibility of directing his progeny.

When something is projected from inside yourself to the outside, it is first seen by the eyes as though you peered out through a window. Thus, is sight the function of this Key.

The letter *Heh* is the equivalent of E, or silent H. It means "window," which is a contraction of "wind" and "door," an opening cut in the house of Beth to admit wind and air after Man has made a door (Daleth) to admit himself. This window was his means of receiving and perceiving Light.

A window is a vantage point for surveying all our surroundings to oversee all that goes on about us.

As a result of this supervision, we are enabled to order and control our personal universe. Through the attributes of Heh, we gain both vision and supervision. Then, after having minutely examined all that appears without, we refine vision to achieve insight into the realities of creation. We penetrate its inmost nature by seeing through that which is outwardly visible.

Rather than merely looking at things about you, develop true vision by looking into them. See things as they are - not as they appear. The higher vision includes insight into man's own powers, thus becoming true perception. By watching, he has learned to see.

This is illustrated by comparative levels of vision. A child simply sees a "house"; the purchaser sees its function; the architect, its plan. The artist goes still further in his infinite pains to reproduce its image. He gazes deep into the subject of his inspection to bring out more than is usually evident, whether of beauty or intrinsic values, seeing much that is ordinarily passed over unnoticed. The study of art helps anyone improve his powers of observation.

According to the quality of our vision do we make the definition of ourselves and environment. As we see, we also make patterns which the formative power tends to bring forward into manifestation.

The Emperor is called The Onlooker, and the power of nature works because he is looking on. Moreover, because of his watchfulness, he cannot be surprised nor overwhelmed, by misfortune nor by enemies.

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Qabalistically, this is called the Path of the Constituting or Measuring Intelligence "because it constitutes creation (or the substance of Creation) in pure darkness." To constitute a thing is to set it up or establish it, whereas to measure is to find its range, capacity, or extent.

When the early fathers of our country found themselves with an infant nation to be ruled and directed, one of the first important moves were to draw up the framework of regulation called a Constitution.

"To constitute" also means to ordain or appoint. Not only are "things" set in order, but also people are appointed those places where they best fit according to measured capacity. In this work of putting affairs in order, things are set up on a solid "four-square" basis of operation.

The square diagram has long been the symbol of matter and formation, the solid foundation in building - four comers creating a state of secure establishment which will not allow the structure to topple. The builder must measure all things correctly to distinguish what is true through reason and clear vision.

The original four-letter word was the Tetragrammaton, JHVH, the Hebrew Divine Name. In Greek, tetra means "four," while gramma means "letter." The exact pronunciation of the Yod-Heh-Vav-Heh has been lost because it was so holy as to be unspeakable by any but the High Priest when he entered the Holy of Holies once each year.

After the destruction of the temple at Jerusalem within the century following Jesus' birth, the pronunciation of the Creator's Name was gradually forgotten. In Hebrew writing, the vowels are omitted and only the framework of a word is written down, so we still have only the four consonants with which the Name was spelled. It has been wrongly pronounced Jehovah, sometimes Yahweh.

The letter Heh is twice repeated in this Name; as second and fourth letter. Therefore, it denotes a very important factor in the process of Creation. In Qabalistic writings, it was said that Heh, the letter of this Key, was the letter "wherewith Creation took place," the second Heh being as offspring or daughter of the first.

He sits on a solid cube, each side a perfect square, and thus a symbol of Truth and Order. It is composed of stone; in Hebrew ehben. This word is a contraction of Ab (Father) and Ben (Son); therefore, stone in the Tarot is a symbol of the union of Father and Son.

This Key represents Aries, first sign of the Zodiac, which begins the fourth month of the year. Here, the Sun, which was born in darkness of winter, shows its first outward effect as Spring brings a visible resurrection of Nature from the apparent "death" of winter; that which was growing within now becomes manifest outwardly.

The Sun is exalted in Aries as shown by the gold trim of the helmet and globe, the metal of the Sun, and by the orange color of the sky, one of the colors assigned to the sun, yet composed of a blend of mental-yellow plus action-red.

The rulership of warlike Mars over Aries is evident in his metal which is used for steel armor, and his red color in the mountains, and on the helmet, which suggests that of a fireman. Red is the color used to denote fiery activity and creative energy, as well as the "red tincture" of the alchemist.

Aries is a Fire sign ruling the head which exercises control over the whole body through the brain. He is a leader and pioneer. Symbols of Aries are evident: one atop his helmet, and a ram's head on his shoulder - the Ram acting as leader of the flock of sheep. The white lamb on the cube is also a symbol of Aries, but it refers to the innocence of new life at the spring season which is ushered in by Aries.

Behind him flows the cool stream of the underlying or subconscious mind which waters his judgments with mercy, and from which he draws remembrance. This "water" gradually breaks down the fiery red rock through erosion and combines with it to form the fertile soil which can be planted for The Empress' Garden. "Adam" means "red earth"; he was the first man. The red color is lowest in the spectrum, or nearest to physical density.

In his right hand is the Egyptian Ankh, a symbol of Venus and The Empress. He rules with love. It is a sign of Life, and "Eve" also means "living." It becomes here, by its color and shape, a combined symbol of Light, Life, and Love. Her color, the green of nature, like Eden, forms the footing on which his throne is established. The ten small circles on his helmet refer to the ten Sephiroth.

The emblem in his left hand is a symbol of dominion over the terrestrial forces of earth's globe, its material trend indicated by the cross on top. Four is also a symbol of the four-armed cross.

His white shield refers to the purity of Spirit, its five sides reiterating the relationship to Mars through the fifth Sphere on the Tree of Life. he double-headed eagle emblazoned on the shield suggests initiative, swift creative energy, and regeneration. The two heads of equal dignity indicate equilibrium or the balance of opposite forces.

His legs are posed again in the form of the number 4, or a cross, but the posture of his whole figure resembles the symbol for alchemical sulphur, that is, the triangle of the Law standing above and triumphing over the cross of the material realm. Sulphur suggests those passional fires which both tempt man, to turn aside from the spiritual path and burn the dross from his being.

He is called Sovereign Reason, the Eye of the Mind, occupying the intellectual throne. Order is achieved with the help of Reason - these being the two principal functions of this Key.

The Monarch ruling his empire is your real Self. Use this Key to strengthen the pattern of order and control in your own life. Whenever a new condition of any kind enters your life, take immediate steps to put it in its rightful place in the scheme of things and "set your affairs in order."

Remember particularly, any attempt to achieve order in your life must begin by establishing order in your thinking, and as you drop the pebble into the pool of your affairs, the widening ripples will Sect every part of your life.

Put the "head" in order first as in the first commandment. You place the Godhead first in all things that all else may fall into its rightful place.

The Number Four and the Square in Symbolism

In the Zohar, it is stated that the Four Elements or the four phases of matter are the roots and source of all things both above and below.

"There are four," according to an old saying, "which take the first place in this world: man, among the creatures; the eagle among the birds; the ox among cattle; and the lion among wild beasts." In the order mentioned above, the symbols represent the four elements in combination with the four fixed signs of the zodiac. Thus, Aquarius, and Air, Scorpio, and Water; Taurus, and Earth; and Leo, and Fire.

The quaternary, or four-sided figure, was anciently called the most mysterious number, because it contains all the mysteries of nature, and the most perfect number because the root of other numbers, and of all things. It is also known as the first mathematical power, and a symbol of the Eternal and Creative Principle.

In the world of elements, there are four seasons, four winds, four directions, and the four qualities corresponding to the four elements - namely, heat, cold, moisture, and dryness.

The number Four is a symbol of terrestrial order, or orderly arrangement. It is claimed that the fourth Sephirah, Mercy, represents the first day of Creation, and the beginning of form.

Four is also the Tetragrammaton, the Divine Name JHVH, whose letters correlate with the four planes of Creation.

In Revelation 21:16, the holy city was seen corning down out of heaven from God, four-square, its length the same as its breadth.

Key 4
THE EMPEROR

The fundamental meaning of the 4th Key is *Reason*. The key is called the Emperor, and the Emperor is one who oversees and controls. This is the basic function of reason, for by it we supervise and control our daily activities. *Vision* is also attributed to this card and has a dose connection with the faculty of reason, when we consider reason as "insight" or mental vision. Physical sight is also meant here, and the orange background is symbolic of the Sun, source of the light by means of which we are able to see.

The mountain represents the fiery activity of Mars and Aries, which are attributes of this Key. Aries is also symbolized by the rams' heads on shoulder and throne, and Mars by the steel armor with which the Emperor is dad. The twelve points that ornament the helmet are also astrological. The globe is a conventional symbol of dominion. Th$ globe and cross, like the circle and Tau of the scepter, symbolize the masculine and feminine potencies of the radiant mental energy, or Life-Force. The purple flaps over his armor hint at his rulership, since purple is the color of royalty.

Key 4 – The Emperor

Hebrew Letter: Heh (ה) – “Window” 🪟
- ה Heh means *Window* — an opening for light, perception, and vision.
- Symbol of sight, perspective, and the channel through which spirit looks upon creation.
- A Simple Letter, Heh reveals Aries, the fiery gate of initiative and rulership.

English Equivalent / Value: H = 5
- Fifth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 5 = individuality, power of decision, dynamic activity.
- Heh as *Window* = the eye of Spirit opening to vision.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Constituting Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that constitutes the form of creation.
- Provides the sight-line, the plan by which things are structured.

Aspect of Consciousness: Reason / Vision
- Faculty of sight and rational order.
- The Emperor embodies reason, logic, authority, and rulership.
- Consciousness as the governing principle — the sight that directs will.

Astrology: Sign Aries ♈ — Mar 21–Apr 19 (Nisan / Vernal Equinox)
- Aries is initiative, leadership, fiery creative impulse.
- Mars as ruler brings energy, courage, and conquest.
- The vernal equinox = fiery renewal, beginning of the zodiacal year.

Polarity: Sight ↔️ Blindness
- Sight = reason, perception, clear vision.
- Blindness = tyranny, when reason is clouded or misapplied.

Seasonal Associations:
- Spring Equinox — the renewal of light, ascending fire, seed-time.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔴 Red
- Red = fiery will, energy, authority, rulership.
- The flame of initiative, Mars as driving force.

Musical Note: 🎵 C
- Tone of vitality and fiery impulse.

Path on the Tree: 15th Path
- Connects Chokmah (Wisdom) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Constituting Intelligence — vision and reason shaping form.
- Path of fiery authority, bridging wisdom with the heart-center.

Cube of Space: Northeast Edge
- Heh rules the Cube's northeast edge — dawn light rising, vision expanding.
- Represents the sight-line of Spirit moving forward into manifestation.

Alchemy / Metal: Iron ⛓️ (Mars)
- Strong, durable, forceful.
- Represents energy, action, and the sustaining power of rulership.

Attributes:

Simple Letter: Key 4 H Heh Emperor Sight

Aspect of Consciousness: Reason
The self-conscious activity of inductive reasoning, applied to mental imagery where errors are corrected and order is established. Reason is the self-conscious mental faculty which takes raw mental imagery and organizes and classifies it in accordance with a set of laws and rules.

Key 4 Key: Order and Reason it is the number which symbolizes order, establishment, reason, and manifestation.

Path of Wisdom 15, is called the Constituting Intelligence, because "it constitutes Creation in the darkness of the world."

Hebrew Name: Heh (window)
"A window admits light (knowledge) and air (Life-breath, spirit) into the house (Beth) of personality. It also permits outlook, survey, supervision, control, and so on. Architecturally, windows are derived from doors. Furthermore, since they permit a survey of persons approaching a house, they enable the inhabitants of the house to decide whether to open the door to admit friends, or to bar it against enemies."

As a window allows one to see out, the letter Heh also corresponds to the faculty of vision, both physical sight and the inner vision of sound reason.

The letter of this Path is E, or silent H, called, the second and fourth letter of the Tetragrammaton. Heh means "window."

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Constituting Intelligence
To constitute something is to author it, name it, define it. A constitution is a document setting forth the laws and principles by which a society is to run its affairs. Reason defines and sets forth boundaries and rules in accordance with laws and principles. The Constituting Intelligence is that aspect of consciousness which defines, establishes boundaries, and sets forth order. It is the supreme authority in any organization.

"Our personal definitions of the meaning of our experiences constitute suggestions which are accepted, without reservation, by our subconsciousness. Thus, in a sense, every man makes his own law, writes the constitution of his own personal world, and finds that his life-experience is the reproduction of that constitution through the working of subconscious responses."

Sight is the function of this Key, a window admitting Light and permitting observation. Sight also permits supervision, measurement, and accurate classification.

The Monarch ruling the Kingdom represents your own true Self, who must take steps to establish the dominion over his own universe, through the two main functions of this

He is both the Ancient of Days, and the youth of Spring Eternal. His posture suggests the number 4 and the symbol for alchemical Sulphur.

Astrological Correspondence: Aries
"Heh is the first of the twelve "simple" letters of the Hebrew alphabet, so called because each has but a single pronunciation. It is the outgoing emanation of Primal Will at the beginning of Cosmic manifestation. To it is attributed the first sign of the zodiac, Aries,

the Ram. Aries is a fiery, cardinal sign. [...] Astrologers say Aries represents rulership, government, guidance and leadership."

Number: 4
The number 4 is symbolic of "Order, measurement, classification, recording, tabulation"

Color / Note: Red / C

The Scene: An older man is seated on a stone throne.

The Emperor: He is the definer, the law-giver, the regulator. The Ancient of days, the grand architect of the Universe, the supreme reason, the constituting power. The Emperor is essentially the Magician after his union with the High Priestess has transformed her into the Empress and made him the father of her children.

The Armor: Steel, the metal of Aries and Mars. The truth is his armor. Seeing things as they are eliminating error and is a means of protection. Steel armor is the metal of Mars, which rules Aries, a warrior planet.

The Helmet: The red helmet of Mars which rules Aries and the head.

The Red Globe: Symbol of dominion. The globe shows dominion over earthly affairs, and all below his level. Of the New Jerusalem, Revelations Chapter 21, verse 16 says:

> "The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its breadth; and he measured the city with his rod..."
>
> Verse 23: " . . . the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb."

The scepter: A gold ankh, meaning the power of regulation is derived from the sense of sight and the mental vision of Emperor. His scepter is a modified Venus symbol, the Egyptian Ankh, a sign of Life.

Red mountains show the nature of a Fire sign. These are igneous rock, which in disintegrating become the soil for the cultivated garden. In the same manner must pure Reason be broken down into its elements and mixed with emotional qualities in order to produce results. The Mountains: Barren, the represent the sterility of mere reason, unless there is something vitally alive and fruitful to be organized.

He sits overlooking the stream of consciousness stemming from the High Priestess' robe, which has watered the Empress' garden.

The cubical seat is suggestive of the number 4 and is a symbol of form. It is also of stone, the "ehben" which hints at the mysterious Stone of the Philosopher, in the union of Father and Son. The red eagle represents swift, creative energy, the initiative of all being, and red tincture of the alchemist.

The orange background is a solar color combining red with yellow, reminds the Sun is exalted in Aries. It is also a color of pride and vitality.

The 12 points on the helmet, of which six are visible, correspond to the Empress' 12 stars. An Aries symbol is on top, and the gold trim is the metal of the Sun.

The violet of his garb is symbolic of royalty, and hints at the idea of Truth as his defense, for violet is a color associated with Aquarius and Truth.

The ram's head on his shoulder is a symbol of Aries. The tiny globe between his horns indicates exaltation of the Sun in Aries, sign of resurrection.

Tetragrammaton means "four lettered," JHVH, or Jahweh, commonly but incorrectly called Jehovah, was the Divine Name by which the Creator was known to the Hebrews. It’s true pronunciation has been forgotten because only the high priest was ever allowed to speak it. It is associated with the Hebrew verb "to be," and in its entirety is translated as "that which was, that which is, and that which shall be."

🎨 Key 4 – The Emperor: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔴 Scarlet Red (upper sky is 🟠 Orange in the card)
- **Path:** 15th Path – Chokmah → Tiphareth (Heh, ה – “Window”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔴 Scarlet Red
- **Meaning:** Scarlet red is the vibratory color of Aries, the Ram. It is the primal surge of fiery will, martial force, and initiating energy. The Emperor’s background declares his rulership through action and structure, channeling the fiery current of Geburah into form.
- **Symbolism:** Authority, law, active energy, martial will establishing order.

🟡 Yellow – Mercurial Illumination

- **Areas:** Tau / T cross and circle in his right hand.
- **Meaning:** Light of intellect inscribed into symbols of form and law.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, clarity, intellect directing structure.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Foreground.
- **Meaning:** Fertile base of Nature upon which rulership is exercised.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, balance, natural foundation.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Waters

- **Areas:** Stream at base of cliff.
- **Meaning:** Flow of subconscious life beneath the throne of rulership.
- **Symbolism:** Memory, continuity, reflective wisdom.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Stone cube (except eagle's head).
- **Meaning:** Solidity, equilibrium, the stable throne of power.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, endurance, wisdom crystallized into form.

🟣 Violet – Jupiterian Power

- **Areas:** Belt and flaps on tunic outer garments (except borders and medallion).
- **Meaning:** Mixture of red (Mars) and blue (Saturn), expressing spiritual power within order.
- **Symbolism:** Authority, spiritual sovereignty, truth in rulership.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Cloak edging, tunic hem, undersleeve, beard, hair, ram's head, border of inverted T in globe, shield on ground (except eagle).
- **Meaning:** Innocence, Spirit's purity, symbols of unconditioned Light.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, clarity, innocence, spiritual authority.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as microcosm of Spirit embodied in rulership.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit incarnate.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Inverted T and cross on globe, helmet framework and points.
- **Meaning:** Solar light, perfected vitality, incorruptible authority.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, illumination, divine rulership.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Ground

- **Areas:** Sandy slopes between grassy area in foreground and stream’s edge.
- **Meaning:** Dense foundation of Nature grounding the throne.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, earthy foundation, grounding force.

🟠 Orange – Solar Vitality with Mercury

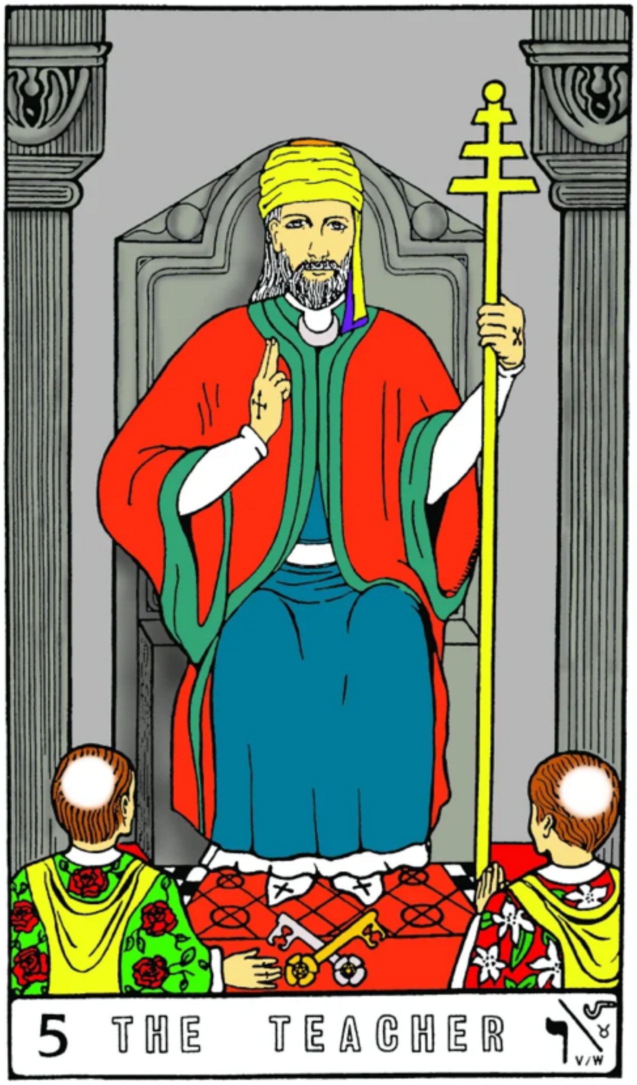
- **Areas:** Upper background above mountains.
- **Meaning:** Warm radiance of solar fire infused with mercurial light.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, enthusiasm, radiant authority.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Leg armor and breastplate.
- **Meaning:** Sharpened intellect, disciplined will made protective.
- **Symbolism:** Discrimination, willpower, protective strength.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars/Aries

- **Areas:** Mountains, globe in left hand (not T or cross), helmet (except borders/points), eagle, entire mountain range.
- **Meaning:** Fiery surge of Aries, martial vitality, generative creative force.
- **Symbolism:** Action, passion, martial power, rulership by active will.


5
THE TEACHER
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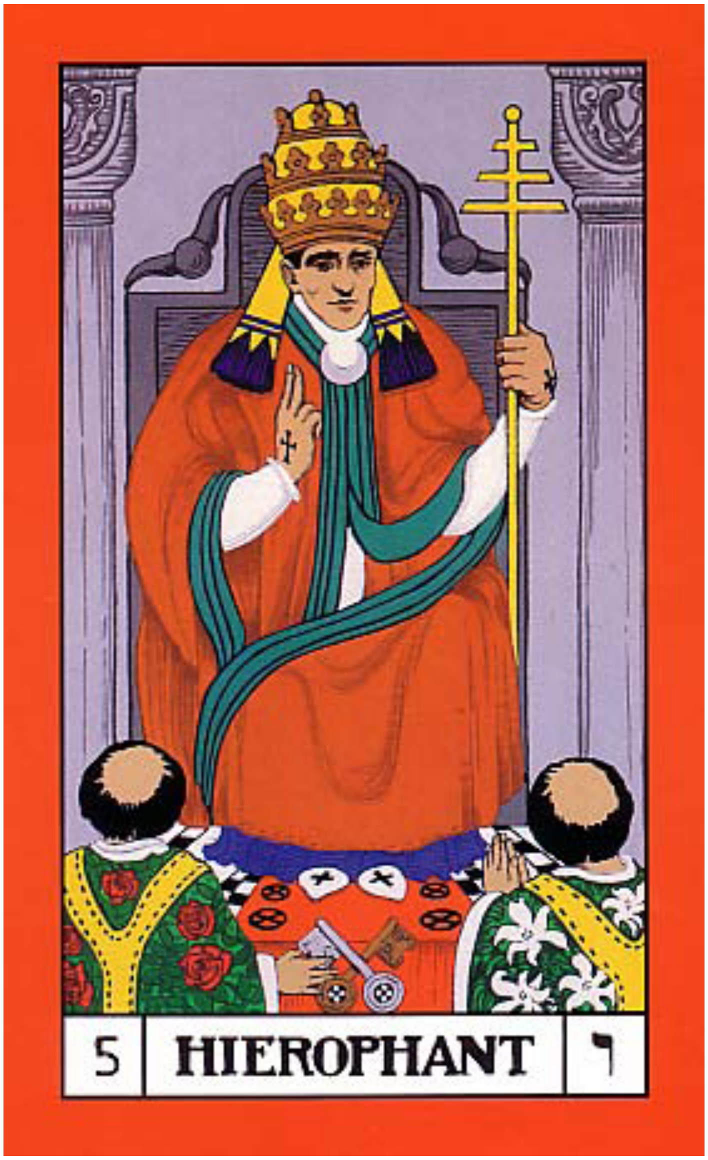
♉
V/W


5
HIEROPHANT
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Key 5
THE TEACHER
(Also called The Hierophant)

Letters U, V, or W Vav - Nail

Revealer of Mysteries - the Voice Within.

> *You shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you. And though the Lord gives you the Bread of Adversity and the Water of Affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And your ears shall hear a word behind you saying, "This is the Way; walk in it." When you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.* - Isaiah 30:19

Fatherhood began with the previous Key 4, or The Emperor, who exercised reason and authority to bring his flock forward into a pattern of orderly activity.

But once the mechanics have been established and things are functioning properly, the children, or nation, or individuals involved have themselves arrived at the age of reason. So now they must be taught how to function at a higher level, and their finer capacities have to be aroused with the aid of wisdom. Then does the strict father lay aside armor and helmet to put on the softer, yet tougher, vestments representing spiritual authority and peace.

As pope or guru (not of any specific religion, but simply il papa or spiritual father), he replaces outer command with inner rule. For the functions of this Key are Intuition and her Hearing, and these begin where Reason leaves off. Here the subconscious response to Reason carries development still further and enhances the results.

The word "in-tuition" means interior teaching, just as to "instruct" means to "build-in." This inner teaching goes beyond mere hunches and reaches into collective human experience so it may be called "spiritual intuition." This brings a direct perception of eternal principles resulting from the union of personal consciousness with Cosmic Consciousness.

The Teacher is in some ways a composite of all the preceding Keys, partaking of their attributes as a son takes after all his grandparents. He is one with the Self, The Fool, uses the wise arts of The Magician; has the priestly authority of The High Priestess, the love of The Empress, and the firmness of The Emperor.

Having accomplished the basic principles, he can now turn attention to higher matters. Thus, the number 5 and The Teacher act as a bridge between lower and higher - a turning point. The number 5, itself, is a half-way point in the numbers from 1 to 9. It is thus considered the number of Man himself, as the mid-point and the mediator between Nature and God. This, too, is the meaning of the five-pointed star or pentagram.

In crossing-over from one state to another, we find the idea of "bridge," or the link between that which is above and that below, and between that which is below and that above. A pope or bishop is called pontifex, a Latin word meaning "bridge-maker," and this term describes well the function of a priest acting as mediator between man and God.

This Key is related to Taurus, which rules the throat, while the Hebrew letter for the Key is Vav, meaning "hook" or "nail" - thus a link which joins together. The letter Vav represents any one of our letters, U, V, and W.

Ecclesiastes 12 states: "Like nails My fixed are the collected sayings which are given by one Shepherd." And from another source we hear of "the nailing or fixing of the word." Jesus Christ was nailed to a cross. His crucifixion was the Key opening the Gates of Heaven. He linked Heaven (within) to Earth (without).

This Teacher is not limited to any one church or faith but is a Universal Father. He represents the Inner Voice which instructs us in universal principles and becomes a connecting link between outer experience and inner Illumination. While he works on the inner plane, the instruction applies equally to that which is without.

This Key relates to the Self within, in the relationship of the Teacher and Instructor, by means of the Inner Voice. Interior hearing is the teaching of Truth which comes from within. The Teacher represents that Self which brings about at-one-ment with the Universal Being. He poureth Wisdom's living sweetness into the spiritual ear that "hears."

"Hierophant," the former name of this Key, was a title given the chief officer in the Eleusinian mysteries. It means one who explains or interprets sacred rites, as "the revealer of sacred things." He is an Initiate, a Master of the Mysteries of Life, holding Keys to its hidden doctrines.

We have chosen a title more in keeping with the Teacher discipleship relationship of Universal Truth, which can be applied to any place or time. Teaching embraces all methods of imparting knowledge, such as instruction, guidance, discipline or counsel. A spiritual teacher seeks to make known and accepted these higher Truths to which he has attained, through training and direction which make use of precept, example and experience, especially the last two.

The gold and silver crossed keys indicate the union and balance of solar-positive and lunar-negative forces. These are the Keys to the Kingdom which Jesus gave Cephas, who became known as the first Christian pope. They are shown connected by a gray nail to emphasize the idea of uniting.

Other symbols of union are the gray of wisdom and the coloring of pillars and background, which shows the blending of all pairs of opposites into uniformity. The crosses on hands, feet and carpet also indicate this uniting of opposites.

Venus is the planetary ruler of Taurus - the lover of beauty and "Good living" and of substantial things. The Moon is exalted in this sign, as is shown by its position at the throat, or Taurus area. Other symbols of this sign appear in the design at upper comers of his throne, and the Venus symbols on the carpet are folded double so their cross is inside the circle rather than below it. Thus, they become coins, a medium of exchange, part of the Taurus function and also symbols of the element Earth.

The diamond design on the carpet represents the hardness of fixed earth, while the bull of Taurus represents Earth in its strongest and most balanced form.

Orange red is assigned to Taurus on the color scale and is the color of his robe and carpet. The color of opposite-sign Scorpio is edging his robe; its curving fashion suggests the Kundalini or serpent force and also reminds us that each sign partakes somewhat of the qualities of its opposite sign. The white sash around his middle indicates the inner or spiritual path which binds his outer consciousness - a symbol of cohesion and commitment.

His two fingers uplifted, the rest concealed, imply: "I'm not telling you all at once, son; much remains to be learned." But through what is taught, you achieve growth of consciousness.

In our early impatience as students, we seek all the answers at once, in plain language, wishing nothing reserved. But one can only handle a little at a time over a long period; like food, it has to be digested and assimilated. Someone might show you all the food needed over a period of years to attain a certain growth, or give you lists and menus of it, but you couldn't eat or handle this all at once; and only the eating, with careful mastication and thorough incorporation into your structure, is of any value in your growth.

The true Teacher stands at a higher level, having learned from experience. He is supposed to know more until you reach his stature. Otherwise, what could he teach you? The Self is even more wisely conservative than a human teacher, yet never- failing when contact is real. You are told or shown just enough.

The staff symbolizes dominion of the Life-Power through the planes (crossbars) of Nature, with the knob at the top representing the archetypal world. Similarly, his crown or turban also relates to the four worlds beginning with the Archetypal plane on top.

The two novitiates depict the children being taught, the students. "Except ye become as a little child, ye cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." Each has been garbed to represent one of the fields of endeavor cultivated in Key 1 by The Magician.
The seeker robed with roses has chosen the Path of love for humanity, and spiritual unfoldment through heartfelt activity, the hands ardently spread out to show open heartedness, touching the keys of the Kingdom as did Peter. Yet, the passive or receptive element is indicated, as well, by his placement at left in the picture.

The other seeker is sometimes depicted with his fingertips upward in prayer, and this is the attitude of devotion and pure mindedness - the white lilies. His red robe indicates activity in this field. On their backs are yokes implying "yoga," the union of man and God in consciousness - this union being one of the major keynotes of the picture. The yokes are shaped exactly as the letter Vav was written in old Hebrew characters.

Their white caps cover the crown chakra, in reverence toward that to which they aspire, to become crowned with the Great Light and Mind of God. They are also a reminder to keep their thoughts pure.

In 1 Kings 19:12, Elijah had been told to go and stand on a mountain before the Lord. There passed by in succession a strong wind, an earthquake, and a hurricane; but the Lord was in none of these. "And after that, a still small voice" - and this proved to be the Voice of God, who then spoke to him. This also applies to Keys 16 and 17.

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46: 10. We know that we must listen well to hear correctly any conversation among our associates. How much more shall we need to keep silent in order to hear a still small Voice speaking wisely within ourselves? You must learn to listen in order to hear; for the work of The Teacher concerns inner teaching. Keys 5 and 2 have been called the Archpriest and the Arch priestess. There is a definite correlation between them. Let us glance at an older French version which depicts this similarity more obviously, and titles them Le Pape and La *Papesse.*

Both are shown seated between two pillars, the one on the viewer's right is gold and the other silver. Between these is drawn a red veil, hers being attached to a gold ring at the upper center of each pillar, while his is strung on a gold rod behind the pillars.

Each wears a white robe trimmed with gold, but beneath her robe shows a pale blue gown. He holds the conventional staff. Both are girded with a gold cord, and both wear a triple-tiered crown. Atop his is a golden cross, but hers bears a golden crescent moon with corners turned upward to receive. Attached to her crown is a short veil which just covers her eyes.

In her left hand is held a book, and in her right are two very large keys, one of silver and one of gold. The floor beneath her throne is of checkered black and white tiles, to show the influence of polarity or of light and darkness in alternate cycles as of day, and night. They carry the same meaning as those beside The Teacher's feet in this Key.

Both of these depict the function of receiving from above. But she sits alone, taking in and recording impressions for future reference, while he holds himself receptive for the purpose of immediate transmission, and for practical as well as spiritual guidance.

Before him kneel two humble white-haired figures, in attitudes of prayer. They are simply robed, one in red wearing a skull cap, and the other in plain blue with no cap.

The Archpriest is blessing them, but in so doing is acting not of himself, but as a mediator and channel for the Divine Blessing. He receives instructions from above, both for himself and for them.

Key 5
THE TEACHER
(Also called The Hierophant)

Hearing is the function assigned to the Hierophant. The Hebrew letter Vau means nail, and is also the conjunction "and." The ornament, hanging from the crown of the Hierophant and passing behind his ears, is a conventionalized yoke. A yoke is something that joins together, again symbolizing union.

The Hindu word for union is Yoga. This card symbolizes *Interior Hearing*, or the development of intuition by certain practices of Yoga.

This that we call interior hearing is the real inner teaching, coming from your own Inner Self, your true Teacher. That Self is represented by the Hierophant. In this connection we must caution you that the true interior hearing is not the negative, lower psychic types of clairaudience. The difference is readily distinguished by the quality of what is heard. Intuition is above reason, but never contrary to it, and it never urges you to do an unethical or selfish thing.

The pillars represent the Law of Polarity, or the I interplay of the pairs of opposites. Their capitals I show a ball and socket pattern and an acorn surrounded by oak leaves. This symbol the union of opposites.

The design of the wards of the crossed keys is a bell. This symbolizes sound vibration used in hearing, and is also a hint that sound has a practical value in unlocking the gates of your Inner Temple. The two ministers who kneel before the Hierophant represent desire and knowledge, as indicated by the roses and lilies on their garments.

Key 5 – The Hierophant

Hebrew Letter: Vav (ו) – “Nail / Hook” 🔩
- ו Vav means *Nail* or *Hook* — that which joins, secures, and connects.
- Symbol of union and continuity, fastening spirit to form.
- A Simple Letter, Vav reveals Taurus, the stabilizing sign of hearing and inner wisdom.

English Equivalent / Value: V = 6
- Sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 6 = harmony, equilibrium, balance of opposites.
- Vav = the link, “and” in Hebrew grammar, joining one thing to another.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Triumphal or Eternal Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that unites consciousness with endurance.
- Symbolizes the eternal power of the inner voice guiding the soul.

Aspect of Consciousness: Inner Hearing / Intuition
- Faculty of hearing both outer sound and inner teaching.
- The Hierophant embodies intuition, spiritual authority, and continuity of tradition.
- True hearing = harmony with the Self, distinguishing wisdom from illusion.

Astrology: Sign Taurus ♉ — Apr 20–May 20 (Iyar / Mid-Spring)
- Taurus = stability, fertility, patience, and groundedness.
- Ruled by Venus ♀, bringing beauty and harmony to structure.
- Represents the ear of Spirit listening to the harmony of the spheres.

Polarity: Hearing ↔️ Deafness
- Hearing = receptivity to divine wisdom.
- Deafness = obstinacy, refusal to listen, attachment to form.

Seasonal Associations:
- Mid-Spring — fertility, stability, establishment of growth.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔴🟠 Red-Orange
- Red-Orange = stability, warmth, and enduring power.
- The fiery earth-tone of Taurus, solid yet vital.

Musical Note: 🎵 C♯ / D♭
- Resonates with the power of continuity and steady vibration.

Path on the Tree: 16th Path
- Connects Chokmah (Wisdom) → Chesed (Mercy).
- Called the Triumphal Intelligence — the inner ear that hears wisdom from above.
- Represents tradition and continuity linking wisdom to mercy.

Cube of Space: Southeast Edge
- Vav rules the Cube’s southeast edge — stability in light and growth.
- Represents the secure fastening of Spirit to form, and the inner ear attuned to harmony.

Alchemy / Metal: Copper ⚙ (Venus)
- Warm, conductive, harmonizing.
- Represents beauty, balance, and the power of attraction.

Attributions

Simple Letter: Key 5 - W Vav Teacher Hearing

Aspect of Consciousness: Intuition
Listening to that still small voice within. Intuition follows reason and adds to it. Intuition is the subconscious response to reason, whereby knowledge beyond reason is attained. Intuition is a combination of the voice of the Higher Self (Sun) and the imagination (Empress-Venus). There are two types of "intuition". There are hunches which come from the subconscious mind alone and there is true intuition which comes from the Higher Self, via the subconscious mind. True spiritual intuition comes from the Super-Conscious level and is the direct perception of eternal principles. The interior hearing of the voice of the Higher Self - the voice of the Inner Teacher.

Hebrew Name: Vav (nail)
The Hebrew letter Vav means hook, or nail. A nail is a fastening device, a means of joining or uniting things, and a means of supporting something. "As a means of support, it is linked in thought and language with such ideas as aid, assistance, sustenance, furtherance, and ministry." A nail joins things, and therefore the central idea behind "Vav" is that of "Union". Union is also the meaning of the word "Yoga" which is a discipline whereby union is achieved between personal consciousness and universal consciousness.

The function of this Key is Hearing, and the Intuition which must follow reason and go beyond. "He that hath an ear, let him hear. "

The faculty of hearing is also attributed to Vav as hearing "unites man to man by speech, and man to God by the Word of the Inner Voice."

Its letter is in Hebrew called Vav, the third letter of the Tetragrammaton. In English it is U, V, or W. Vav means "nail" or "hook," sometimes also used as the conjunction "and" to join things together.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Triumphant and Eternal Intelligence
The inner voice of true spiritual intuition is "Triumphant” because is gives us assurance

of the ultimate success of the One Will / Higher Self / Life Power in the completion of its divine plan. It is "Eternal" because it reveals to us eternal principles.

Identity: He is both the Initiate or Master over the mystery of Life, and the Teacher within oneself; the One Self, and the Inner Voice. The two fingers raised in blessing show that all is not at once outwardly revealed; a part is shown, some must be sought. As mediator it is his job to form a link between microcosm and macrocosm.

Astrological Correspondence: Taurus
Astrologically, the sign is Taurus, the fixed Earth sign. Two horned symbols of this sign adorn the upper corners of the throne. Taurus is representative of quietness, reserve, stability, affection, patience, stability, practicality, and love of beauty. To receive intuition, one requires a quiet listening posture, and patience. Intuition is practical and provides stability. Furthermore, the sign of Taurus is ruled by Venus. Thus, intuition is ruled by imagination, meaning that intuition is the result of subconscious processes which generate mental imagery, thoughts, feelings, etc. Also, the Moon is exalted in the sign of Taurus. Thus, subconsciousness (symbolized by the Moon and the High Priestess), finds its highest manifestation in the activity of intuition, revealing and unveiling itself.

Number: 5
"Meanings of 5 include: Mediation, adaptation, means, agency, activity, process, and the like." Intuition mediates between the Self-Conscious, Subconscious, and Super-Conscious aspects of being. The Number 5 is the middle number between 1 and 9; thus, it symbolizes a mediator, and man as between God and nature: The Law.

Numerical value is 6.

Color / Note: Red Orange / C#

The Scene: A high priest sits on a throne while two clerics genuflect.

The Hierophant: He is the revealer of the mysteries.

Robes: Red Orange, the color of Taurus. Underneath the robe, the Hierophant wears a blue garment like that of the High Priestess.

Crown: Triple tiara made of gold, symbolizing radiant energy and wisdom.

Twin Pillars: Suggests the laws of association of the High Priestess.

Grey Stone Throne: Contains symbols of Taurus.

Square Dais: Covered with a red-orange carpet over a checker board pattern. Intuition is built upon a foundation of sound reason.

Cleric on Left: Wears a robe of roses, symbolizing desire, and is kneeling before the Hierophant. To tap into intuition, we must be willing to put aside what we think we want. We must find the humility to kneel before the Inner Teacher and truly listen.

Cleric on Right: Wears a robe of lilies, symbolizing personal truth, and is kneeling before the Hierophant. To tap into intuition, we must also be willing to put aside what we think we know.

Keys: One key symbolizes the subconscious, the other, the super-conscious. The keys to revelation lie in the ability to discern between our instinct (hunches from the subconscious mind), and true intuition (from the super-conscious mind, the Higher Self).

Path of Wisdom 16 is termed the triumphant and Eternal Intelligence, "the delight of glory, and the garden of pleasure prepared for the just."

The gray background suggests emanation from Chokmah, Sephirah of Paternal Wisdom, and gray shows the union of black and white -- Spirit and matter -- known and unknown, all opposites reconciled.

The crown of authority is of golden yellow color, like solar energy. Its four folds signify at top the Idea, in the second row the nature of the Life-Power; third row, the modes of manifestation; last row, the Spirits of God. It is intended to depict no specific religion, but a Universal Teacher.

The crossbars of the golden staff indicate the same four levels, the archetypal being shown by the knob on top. It also represents the dominion of the Creative Life Power over the three planes of nature, and its penetration through all the planes.

The silver moon at the throat points out the exaltation of the Moon in Taurus, its place of highest expression. The thyroid area relates to interior hearing and intuition.

His robe and platform are the red-orange color assigned to Taurus on the color wheel, which begins with red at Aries, (and progresses through the 12 signs.)

The blue-green border is of the opposite and complementary color and sign and refers to the Kundalini.

His blue garment represents the Akashic substance and memory.

The white undergarment shows enlightenment and underlying purity as its requirement.

The yokes at the backs of the student-priests refer to a primitive form of the letter Vav as a fastening or link (yoga or "union") -- the uniting of personal consciousness to universal energy. They are shaped just like an ancient form of the letter Vav.

Their color is yellow, the symbol of mental energy.

The Brother at left wears a green robe, to represent the growth aspect of the desire nature, while red roses denote the activity thereof.

The red robe at right shows the fiery aspect of Spirit as a background for lilies of pure thought and devotional nature.

The students are being directed by the One Self, the Teacher within, who holds up two fingers in a gesture of benediction.

Crosses on the teacher's hand and on shoes denote union of positive and negative forces, with the resultant order.

The dais is four-square with a diamond design to represent the hardness of earth in a state of highest refinement -- the "fixed" earth of Taurus.

Crosses on carpet are Venus symbols folded over to look like Earth symbols.

Crossed keys of St. Peter shows the union of solar and lunar forces as keys to unlock the inner doors to higher consciousness, and the inner doctrine which acts as a key to the sacred writings of the scriptures.

Read also Isaiah 30:19, and Ecclesiastes 12.

🎨 Key 5 – The Hierophant: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟠 Red-Orange
- **Path:** 16th Path – Chokmah → Chesed (Vav, ו – “Nail”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟠 Red-Orange
- **Meaning:** Red-Orange is the vibration of Taurus, the Bull, linked to Vav, the Nail of connection. It is the harmony of fiery Mars (red) tempered with solar gold (orange), expressing stability, structure, and endurance. The Hierophant is the channel of spiritual teaching, joining heaven and earth in the warmth of sacred authority.
- **Symbolism:** Union, hearing the inner voice, spiritual authority, endurance, the current of tradition linking Spirit and matter.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Turban or crown (except top), flap over one ear (except inside fold), staff in left hand, Y’s on priests’ garments.
- **Meaning:** Intellect and clarity woven into symbols of wisdom and priestly office.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, divine clarity guiding teaching.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Robe of monk in left foreground (except collar, cuff, flowers, and Y); foliage on garment at right.
- **Meaning:** Harmony and fertility of life guided by tradition.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, balance, natural fertility of spiritual teaching.

🟣 Violet – Jupiterian Power

- **Areas:** Inside fold of hanging scarf.
- **Meaning:** Blended force of Mars (red) and Saturn (blue), the majesty of spiritual authority.
- **Symbolism:** Sovereignty, spiritual power, truth clothed in wisdom.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Background (light gray), pillars and throne (darker gray).
- **Meaning:** Balance of opposites forming the stable seat of teaching.
- **Symbolism:** Equilibrium, mystery, concealed wisdom behind the veil.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Key with handle at left, top of turban, stars in handles, crown ornaments, key pointing right (except dots in circle).
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection, illumination, vitality of rulership.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, illumination, divine light of wisdom.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection

- **Areas:** Crescent at throat, key pointing left (except dots in circle).
- **Meaning:** Lunar receptivity, intuition, psychic sensitivity.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, balance to solar vitality, subconscious wisdom.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of the priestly current.
- **Symbolism:** Humanity universal, Spirit embodied in diversity.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Gown covering knees, undergarment showing at bottom.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters, foundation of wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, subconscious depth.

🟦🟢 Blue-Green – Blended Currents

- **Areas:** Scarf or border of outer robe.
- **Meaning:** Union of reason (blue) and growth (green), adaptability of wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Adaptability, harmony, vitality of teaching.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Ground

- **Areas:** Hair of students.
- **Meaning:** Humility and grounding of those learning before the throne.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, foundation, humility before wisdom.

⚪ White – Pure Spirit

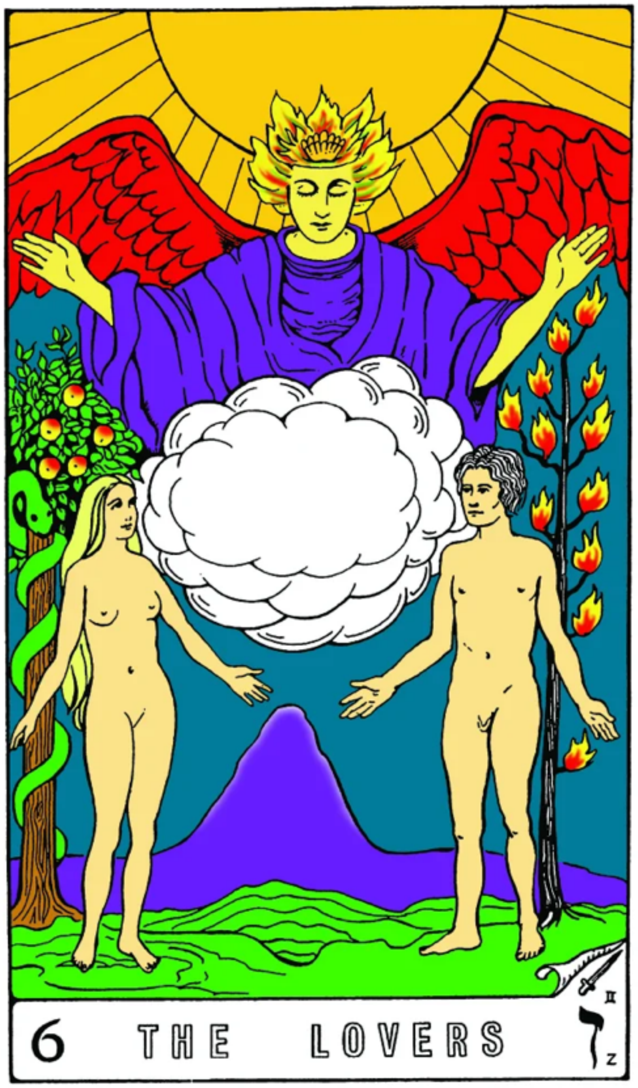
- **Areas:** Undergarment at throat, navel, sleeves, hem; shoes, collar, and cuffs of monks; lilies on monk's robe; tops of heads; alternate throne squares.
- **Meaning:** Innocence, purity, Spirit revealed in sacred service.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, spiritual unity, unconditioned truth.

🟠 Red-Orange – Path Color of Taurus

- **Areas:** Robe and carpeting, outer garment (not scarf/border), dais.
- **Meaning:** Vibration of Taurus, fiery endurance, stability of earth infused with vitality.
- **Symbolism:** Endurance, stability, authority rooted in Nature's law.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Roses on garment at left, robe of monk at right.
- **Meaning:** Passion and vitality integrated into spiritual life.
- **Symbolism:** Love, passion, active energy transmuted into devotion.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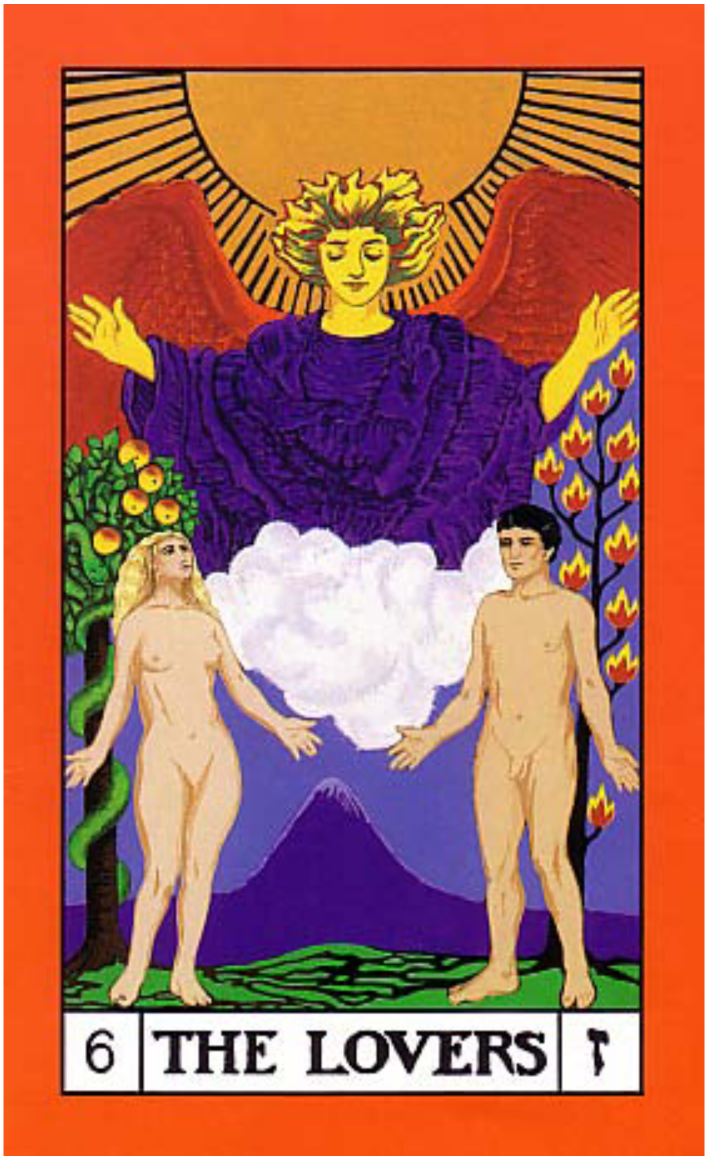
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Key 6
THE LOVERS

Letter Z Zain - Sword

True healing is the attainment of inner and outer
wholeness through contact with the Self.

In order to give the first man of Earth a proper mate, God separated Adam for a time from a portion of his own being so that the two complementary parts could come fully to understand and cooperate, each with the other. Meanwhile their Creator would fill the gap between, until that time when they should be again joined together in Himself.

Love is a balancing force which brings all things into harmony and holds back nothing, because it is all good. One must love divinely and not just "fall" in love. There is no darkness in divine love, nor in selfless personal love. This can only happen when our sights are turned to that which is above and we are hearkening to the voice of the Lord, or of His Holy Emissary - in this case Raphael, the Archangel of Healing and of the element Air, of Prana and the Cosmic Life-Breath.

Raphael's name means "God is the Healer." This also implies that our healing, or our health, depends on the harmonizing of our consciousness with that of the Cosmic.

In this Key is represented the zodiacal sign Gemini, whose ruler is Mercury. Mercury is the planet of Mind, and we know how important our state of mind in relation to general health is, and that a drastic change of mind can change the state of wellbeing - this being within our prerogative of choice.

In a state of primal innocence Adam and Eve are dwelling in the original Garden of Delight ("delight" or "pleasure" being the translation of the word Eden). Innocence is never ashamed; they are open and clear with God and with each other.

There are no shadows or secret places in their consciousness, much like children, without guile. When mankind was in his primeval state, he was obedient as a child to his elders. The person who is obliged to do the will of another holds no guilt nor weight of decision. But when he reaches maturity, he is beset with choices and then becomes like a god, in that he is free to choose. But he also has to pay for his choices.

Have you ever thought, as a child: "I'll be glad when I grow up to be my own boss, and do what I want to do?" But on coming of age you took, along with freedom the responsibility for your very wants. Innocence was gone, and so was Eden's childish delight. You had become like a god, adult and responsible.

The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil stands behind Eve. The fruits of the five senses are shown thereon, as yet, untasted. The serpent is lifted up for healing. She represents the subconscious mind - that area of underlying and automatic consciousness which is most susceptible to subtle insinuations. In fact, our subconscious minds are more readily influenced in this indirect way than by definite statements.

Because of the mistake in tasting this hit of the senses, which darkened the mind with confusion so that the body had to be covered, man could not, in that condition of mind, be allowed to eat of the Tree which would give eternal life but was driven out lest he remain forever in an unevolved, confused state.

Man asked for, and received, the doubtful privilege of having to decide every moment of life if a thing is good or bad; if he should laugh or cry; if he should give or take. In original innocence, he needed give no thought. The Mt of the Tree of Life was being guarded and saved until the day when man would become a regenerated, spiritual being, a fit citizen for the New Jerusalem. This is the "Happy Ending" of the Bible in Revelation 22: 2 - the last chapter - returning to man what he had lost in the book of Genesis.

On either side of the river, the Tree of Life, with its twelve kinds of hit, yielding its fruit each month, and the leaves of the Tree were for the healing of the nations. There shall no more be anything accursed, but the throne of God and the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall worship Him . . . *The leaves of the Tree of Life shall be for healing*, (mentioned above) and Key 6 denotes healing as does the Archangel Raphael.

Whether there be any correlation between the fact that fig leaves were used to cover the shame of Adam and Eve, and later, Jesus cursed another fig tree because it bore only leaves, we do not know. But He did say: "May no Mt ever come from you again." And it is good to think that He was somehow deleting the mistake of Adam and Eve with their fig leaves and clearing the way for the Tree of Life with its healing leaves promised later.

It is clear that God did not want to perpetrate the consciousness which divides everything and categorizes it good or bad. So, He drove them forth to work very hard, and earn their own way, and eventually, purge their inmost beings and bring them once more to God - not in shame, but in true repentance and total dedication, having experienced both sides of the coin.

The Hebrew letter Zain is assigned this Key. Its meaning is "sword." A sword cleaves apart, or splits in half. Eve was the only helpmeet found for Adam equal to him, able to stand by his side, because she was of his own kind: "Flesh of his flesh, and bone of his bone."

In the former Key, The Teacher, Vav was the nail which joined things together - the cohesive factor. But Key 6 is called The Disposing Intelligence, because the figures are "posed apart," or cut asunder. When a part of man was taken from himself, he was able to stand back and look at the other half.

The sense of smell and the function of discrimination are assigned to this Key. "Properties are discovered by the nose," and through smell, one is able to discriminate or choose correctly in the positive meaning of the word. The sword also refers to this act of right discrimination - not as against anything, but as we must choose at each crossroad which way to pursue, "cutting things right down the middle," as it were.

An ancient version of this Key pictured a young man on the Path struggling between which of two women, called Vice and Virtue, he should choose. The angel of Justice flew overhead aiming an arrow in this battle between passion and conscience, showing that whatever the choice, the consequences would be just. Thus, Zain relates to the powers of choice. The sword is also a symbol of the Word, and of the Air element.

Gemini is ruled by mercury, who in mythology carried the caduceus or wand of miracles, a staff with two serpents twined about, which is still used as a symbol of medicine. Moses was also directed by God to "make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live."

This happened in the wilderness as Moses was leading the people through very difficult times. When they complained against God and Moses, fiery serpents were sent to bite some of them, who then died (Numbers 21: 5). So, Moses made a bronze serpent according to instructions from on High, and set it on a pole, so if a serpent bit any man, he could look at the bronze serpent and live.

In another time (John 3: 14), Jesus said: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up that whosoever believes in him may have eternal life."

This is a curious statement, but in each case, it was the lifting up from the ground which symbolized the conquering and control of these subtle forces that they might be used for good. The controlled "serpent power" became the means of healing.

The forces within man - the subtle underlying powers - when lifted above the earthly, sensual level, also become a power for bringing the individual into that balance needed to heal the ills which his uncontrolled state has caused.

The serpent also symbolizes the Kundalini fire, which at first deludes man into temptation then, when overcome, helps to deliver him from evil.

The sun is shown here as a "golden force," rather than white, to represent the physical source of energy and life - the visible body of the invisible spiritual Sun.

The angel's wings are red to denote right action, while the violet robe blends the red of action with the blue of mental substance (blue plus red equals violet). The angel rests horizontally on a cloud showing that man's spiritual powers are not fully developed and that until they are, these must remain partially hidden.

His hair is of tri-colored flaming energy, and at center, above the forehead, is shown a feather-tiara of shining gold, which acts as a focus of attention in healing concentration. Gemini is the sign of the twins, of duality. Yet, all pairs of opposites complement, and thus, complete each other. Polarities are all two extremes of one thing as heat and cold are the extremes, or two ends, of temperature, and past and future are two extremes of time.

The alchemical function of this Key is Fixation, the establishment of firm awareness of the true relation and function of the alchemical principles which are symbolized as mercury, sulphur, and salt. The element air predominates, being of middle nature between the fire of calcination and the salt of earth.

Fixation is the stability of perfect equilibrium, the work of Mercury, The Magician. It involves perfect balance of the solar and lunar forces of the two sides of the human body.

The conscious mind has to look to the subconscious for guidance because the Cosmic Mind does not speak directly to the outer awareness but must reach from Its own high level through the medium of the inner awareness which, in turn, translates these impulses into conscious thought. Therefore, it is important that subconsciousness reflect the true knowledge from the plane of the Absolute, seeking guidance ever from the Mind of God and his angelic messenger, and never from the crawling, creeping forces of animal instinct which are on a lower level than man's own. Therefore, her gaze is ever upward.

Key 6
THE LOVERS

Discrimination is the keynote of the 6th Key. Its symbolism graphically portrays sharp differences. The letter Zain means a sword, which is an instrument of cleavage. To this key also is attributed the *Disposing Intelligence,* and disposing means literally "to pose apart" or to separate. In addition to that the zodiacal sign Gemini is attributed to this Key. Gemini means the Twins and its sign is approximately II. This gives a clue to the occult doctrine that all opposites are really but different aspects of ONE THING, and that they are complementary. The title, The Lovers, brings this out even more graphically.

The Sun is a symbol of enlightenment, and the ONE FORCE which is differentiated into pairs of opposites. The angel represents superconsciousness, and the clouds indicate that this is partly hidden from us at our present stage of conscious unfoldment. The mountain symbolizes attainment. The man and woman are Adam and Eve, or the prototypes of the specialization of the Life-Force as male and female. The tree of 12 flames behind the man represents the signs of the zodiac, and that behind the woman the five senses. The latter carries out the idea of discrimination between opposites, because it bears the fruit of the knowledge of gad and evil. In addition, the five senses are instruments which enable us to discriminate between one thing and another. The serpent represents the occult force known as Kundalini. See explanation of Key 8.

Key 6 – The Lovers

Hebrew Letter: Zain (ז) – "Sword" ⚔️
- ז Zain means *Sword* — a weapon of discrimination and division.
- Symbol of choice, polarity, and the power to separate truth from illusion.
- A Simple Letter, Zain governs Gemini, the sign of union through polarity.

English Equivalent / Value: Z = 7
- Seventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 7 = analysis, mastery of polarity, completion of a cycle.
- Zain = the Sword of discernment, cutting the path between opposites.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Disposing Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that disposes of what is needed for the work of creation.
- Through Zain, Spirit separates, selects, and unites according to wisdom.

Aspect of Consciousness: Discrimination / Choice
- Faculty of smell and subtle discernment.
- The Lovers embody the power of choice, recognition of polarity, and the union of opposites.
- True union comes through discrimination and conscious alignment.

Astrology: Sign Gemini ♊ — May 21–Jun 20 (Sivan / Late Spring)
- Gemini = movement, duality, versatility, communication.
- Ruled by Mercury ☿, sign of language and the dance of opposites.
- Represents the polarity of male and female, active and receptive, higher and lower.

Polarity: Movement ↔️ Repose
- Movement = exploration and choice.
- Repose = integration, the calm of union once polarity is harmonized.

Seasonal Associations:
- Late Spring — flowering, branching out, multiplying possibilities.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟠 Orange
- Orange = activity, vibration, energy in motion.
- Color of desire and attraction, the spark that draws opposites together.

Musical Note: ♫ D
• Resonates with the power of polarity, movement, and attraction.

Path on the Tree: 17th Path
• Connects Binah (Understanding) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
• Called the Disposing Intelligence — the Sword that separates to unite at a higher level.
• The Lovers = the union of opposites leading to harmony in the heart.

Cube of Space: East Above Edge
• Zain rules the Cube's east-above edge — the rising light of choice and union.
• Represents the discriminating line between inner and outer, higher and lower.

Alchemy / Metal: Mercury (Quicksilver) ☿
• Mutable, reflective, quick-moving.
• Symbolizes adaptability, duality, and union of opposites in alchemy.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 6	Z	Zain	Lovers	Smell

Aspect of Consciousness: Discrimination.
Discrimination is the ability to make or perceive distinctions. (a.k.a. Analysis, differentiation, discernment, perception). Discrimination is symbolized by the sword, because it represents the intellect's ability to separate, divide, and mentally cut things apart for analysis. Key to proper discrimination is the ability to see the Unity behind the appearance of opposites or apparent differences. This ability to perceive Unity in spite of appearances is intuitive in nature. Thus, true Discrimination depends upon true intuition. Harmonious reciprocity between opposites (Love), depends upon discrimination.

How does one learn discrimination? Sensation leads to desire & temptation which leads to action. By reaping the results of our actions, we eventually learn discrimination, which then brings us Inner Harmony and then Outer Harmony - Love.

Hebrew Name: Zain (sword, weapon)
Zain means "Sword". A sword is in many ways the opposite of a nail (nail is the meaning of the Hebrew letter Vav & intuition). While a nail binds things together, a sword cuts them apart. Thus, Zain implies "acuteness, sharpness, like a sword's edge". A sword carves out distinctions, and so does discrimination. Carving out distinctions accurately leads to harmony as things, objects, thoughts, etc., are placed in right relationship to each-other and to the guiding principles which govern the situation.

The sense of smell is attributed to Zain, because smell has always been "associated with keen perception and sagacity."

Letter Z is called in Hebrew "Zain," meaning "sword." As a number it is 7. Here the One Life seems to divide itself, cutting asunder to "pose apart" temporarily for growth. It represents the power of choice, correct discrimination, or discernment and the sense of smell. Adam and Eve before the fall.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Disposing Intelligence
"To dispose is literally to 'place apart', to arrange, to distribute, to apportion, to divide. [...] Analysis, classification, organization, preparation, and adjustment are all related meanings of this mode of consciousness"

Path of Wisdom 17 on the Tree of Life is called the Intelligence of Sensation, or the Disposing Intelligence. "It disposes the compassionate to perseverance, and clothes them with the Holy Life Breath."
Astrological Correspondence: Gemini.
Astrologically, Gemini, the heavenly Twins, is a mental air sign. Gemini, the Twins, suggests intelligence, communication, duality, division. "It is difficult to tell twins apart, and to do so requires nice discrimination." Gemini is ruled by Mercury (K1). Thus, discrimination is ruled by the Self Conscious. Discrimination requires directed, concentrated attention.

Number: 6
Number 6 brings out the idea of equilibrium, beauty and reciprocity. The meanings for the number 6 include: "Balance, equilibration, symmetry, beauty; harmony of opposites, reciprocity; complementary activities, polarity, love."

Color / Note: Orange / D

The Scene: A man and a woman stand beneath the Archangel Raphael. The man looks at the woman who looks at the Archangel. The meaning is that our self conscious intellectual mind (the man), becomes aware of super-consciousness (the Archangel) through careful observation of the activities of the subconscious (the woman).

The Sun: The Life Power.

The Archangel: The Archangel Raphael, the Higher Self, representing Super consciousness. The Archangel represents the Unity behind the apparent pairs of opposites (male/female). He represents the "Face of the Beloved" behind the mask of appearances. True discrimination is what reveals the loving face behind all appearances. Raphael is the angel of healing, and healing is the result of establishing a harmonious balanced relationship between the self-conscious and subconscious aspects. Therefore, the angel represents Superconsciousness, or the Mind of God, shedding influence upon both consciousness (the man,) and subconsciousness (the woman). These two aspects of human personalities are different, but equal.

Raphael is the archangel's name, and it means "God as Healer." He is the archangel of Mercury and Air. He breathes the message that true healing is the attainment of inner and outer wholeness.

The Man: Adam. Generic Humanity. He is the Magician of Key 1 - Self Consciousness. It is the job of the self conscious to free the subconscious from bondage to false suggestions, in order for subconscious to be able to reflect super-conscious awareness into the field of attention.

The Flaming Tree: Each leaf is a triple flame, representing the 36 basic sub types of personality.

The Woman: Eve. She is the High Priestess and the Empress - Subconsciousness. She is looking at the Archangel and not the man. The man (Self-conscious acts of attention and discrimination) has helped free her from bondage to suggestions formerly based upon superficial observation and hasty generalization. She now acts as a receiver and a reflector for divine love and guidance.

The Tree of knowledge: The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Contains five circular fruits - the five senses. Up the tree climbs the serpent of sensation because temptation arises from subconscious memory of sensation. The Serpent is also a symbol of wisdom and redemption because wisdom and liberation result from the right adaptation of the very forces which, at first, tempt us into mistaken action.

The mountain: Climbing above our present level, what alchemists call the Great Work.

Lovers, not opponents, suggest right adjustment, a symbol of mental health. Love is the amalgamating force which brings things to unity.

Behind the angel is the golden force of the Sun, the physical source of life and energy on earth, and the actual body of the invisible Spiritual Sun.

The angel's yellow skin refers to the element Air and Gemini.

The flames of his hair are a blend of red, for reason; green for imagination; and yellow for light. The tiara of golden feathers at front acts as a focus of attention for the healing powers.

The violet robe indicates Truth, royalty, and dominion. Red wings show right action, the evolutive power of air.

A cloud hides part of the greater powers until man has fully developed and provides the angel's resting place.

The tree behind the woman shows the Knowledge of Good and Evil, with the hits of the five senses which tempt the subconscious mind through remembered or suggested sensation.

The serpent is of a color symbolizing the desire nature. It also depicts the serpent force of the Kundalini, which lifted up is a source of power. When it led the instincts astray through subtle delusion, it was brought low. Green refers to the unripe aspect of that force.

Behind the man is the Tree of Life, with its twelve manners of fruits for the twelve signs of the zodiac, as mentioned in Revelations 22: 2 - "the leaves of the Tree serve for healing of the nations."

Before them lies the field (the green of imagination) which they must till until the day of the Return to the Father as enlightened beings.

The Bible is a story of the circuit of man from the time he left the Tree until he returns to it, from Genesis to Revelations.

ARCHANGEL OF AIR

> O Raphael, speaker of Messages,
> Who carriest God's breath to man,
> Propelled by His merest Thought --
> Who bearest Sound upon thy wings
> And drive all scents before thee.
> Fragrance heralds thy passing-by,
> Yet who sees either wind or you?
>
> Your action swift and bright,
> Feathers of motion, fingers of thought
> Tousle the Sunkist tree tops playfully,
> To precious oxygen for health of man.
> Your watchful attention cleans the atmosphere
> And charges it with God.

🎨 Key 6 – The Lovers: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟠 Orange
- **Path:** 17th Path – Binah → Tiphareth (Zain, ז – “Sword”)

- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟠 Orange
- **Meaning:** Orange is the vibration of Gemini, the Twins, attributed to Zain, the Sword of discrimination. It is the brilliance of Splendor (Hod) infused with solar vitality, representing polarity, communication, and the radiant field of union.
- **Symbolism:** Choice, polarity, harmony, radiant union of opposites, the sword of discernment that joins as it divides.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Five fruits on tree at left (yellow with red blush), flames on other tree (yellow with red base), angel's flesh (very diluted yellow), angel's hair (yellow, red, and green flames).
- **Meaning:** Brilliance of intellect, divine illumination shining in fruit, flame, and angel.
- **Symbolism:** Clarity, mental light, divine radiance of Spirit.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Background (except above angel's head).
- **Meaning:** Subconscious reflection, the vast sky of memory and inner awareness.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, subconscious depth, wisdom mirrored in Spirit.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Foreground and foliage, serpent around tree, portion of angel's hair.
- **Meaning:** Fertility, desire, natural vitality growing within polarity.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, harmony, natural fertility of life.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Angel's garment, mountain (diluted violet).
- **Meaning:** Blend of fiery red and limiting blue, authority of Spirit expressed in majesty.
- **Symbolism:** Spiritual sovereignty, power, truth, higher authority.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Sun, background above angel, feathered tiara of angel (shinier in upper half).
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection illuminating the field of polarity.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, solar consciousness guiding choice.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Clouds.
- **Meaning:** Innocence and Spirit unconditioned, unity that transcends polarity.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, spiritual clarity, higher unity.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Man and woman’s hands and faces (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as microcosm of Spirit, polarity embodied in form.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, male and female as vessels of Spirit.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Woman’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Golden radiance of the Sun shining through feminine form.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, fruitfulness, abundance of Nature.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

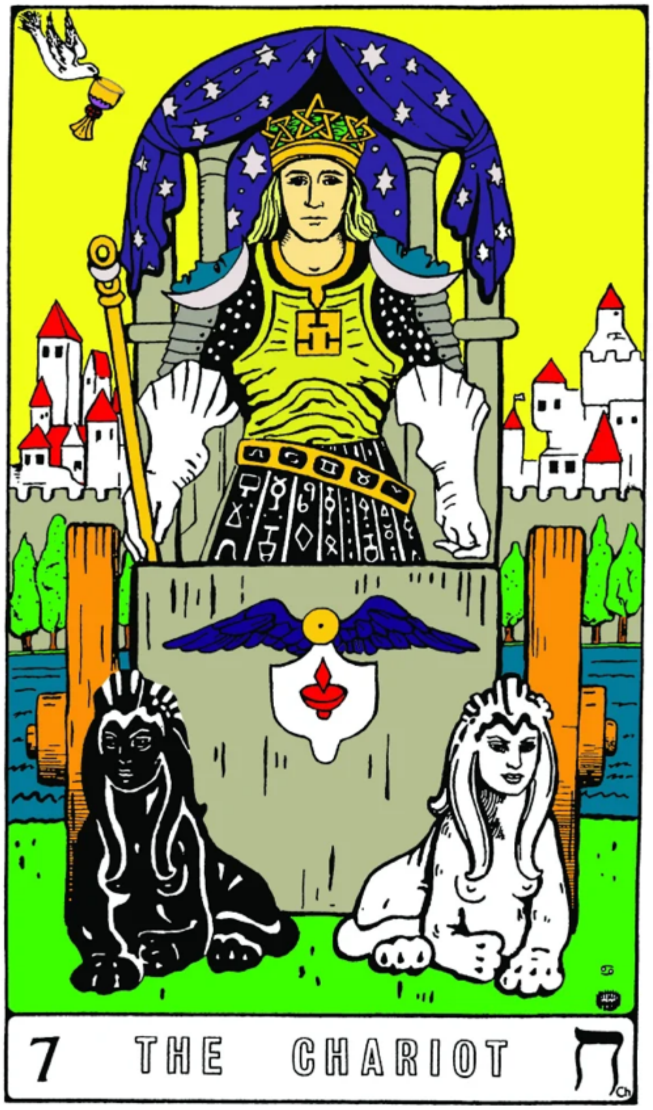
- **Areas:** Left tree trunk behind woman.
- **Meaning:** Dense foundation, grounding the tree of knowledge.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, earthy grounding of growth.

🔴 Red – Flame-Scarlet, Mars

- **Areas:** Angel’s wings, parts of angel’s hair, portions of fruit.
- **Meaning:** Fiery passion and vitality woven into Spirit’s messenger.
- **Symbolism:** Energy, love, passion, creative force of Spirit.

⚫ Black – Primal Mystery

- **Areas:** Man’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Primal substance, mystery of the unconscious.
- **Symbolism:** Mystery, hidden depth, unmanifest potential.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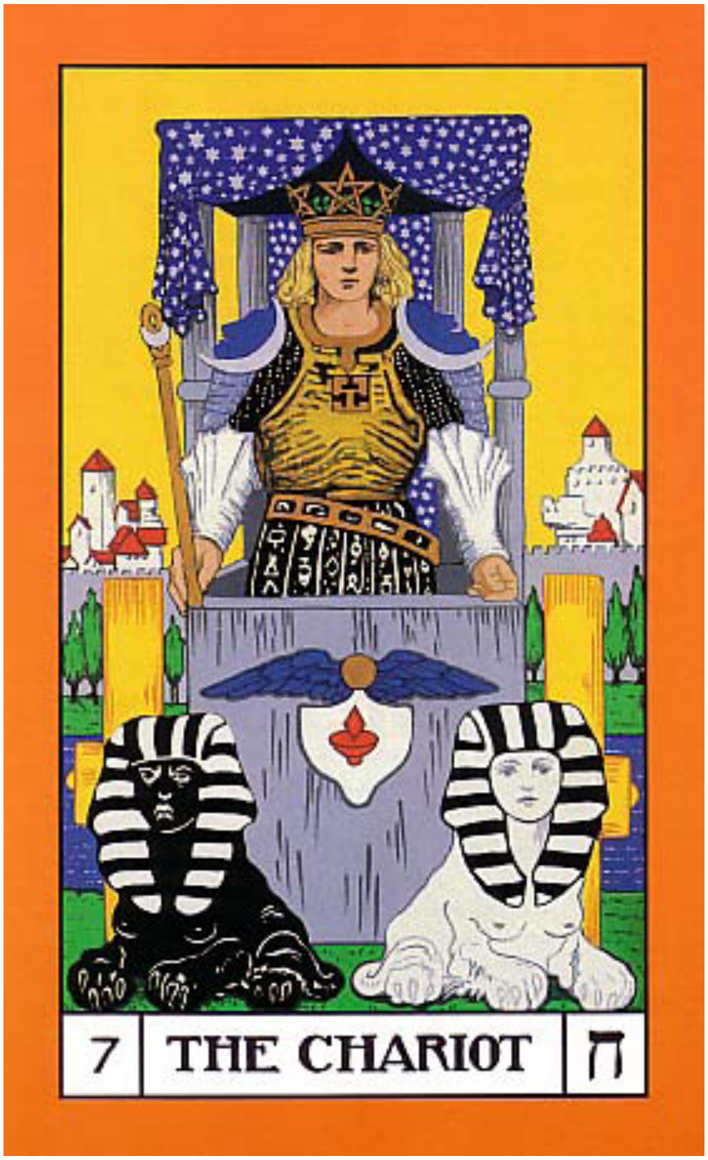
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Key 7
THE CHARIOT

Letter Ch Cheth - Fenced Field

The body of man, solidified out of the "chaos" of the four elements, became his vehicle, its reins being handed over to the driver - Self. Thus, were incarnated the higher principles of the nature of Man. The four pillars of the Universe represent the four directions of Space, and the four elements which he has conquered can be used as supports. A ring around each represents the Ultimate Enclosure of all things within the circle of Spirit.

Certain Qabalistic teachings of the Zohar are sometimes called "the Work of the Chariot." The Chariot of JHVH which appeared to Ezekiel was said to have wheels likened to "whirlwinds of Fire," and to indicate the entire solar system as the Chariot of God whose wheels represent the orbits of planets.

For this reason, the wheels in this version are colored orange, to suggest the fiery energy of Spirit as the cause of their revolving motion. Jupiter, which has to do with the circulation of blood as well as with planetary cycles, is represented by the Wheel of Key 10, and is also the planet exalted in Cancer.

The canopy is colored a deep night-sky blue, the color sometimes used for the Sphere of Understanding on the Tree of Life. From this canopy shine the stars to show that the energy of celestial forces are continually beaming down, affecting every individual. Though they only appear nightly overhead, their influence actually surrounds us at all times, on all sides.

The Charioteer represents exterior conquest of all planes, particularly the mental sciences, the earlier initiations, and triumph of mind over matter. It is his victory over the senses which has made him a king. "He who overcomes shall inherit the Crown of the Kingdom."

The Crown he is wearing shows three pentagrams, to symbolize man's dominion over the three lower planes of nature through proper use of speech: the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms. The crown is of gold to represent the solar forces involved.

The Hebrew letter-word for this Key, Cheth, translates literally as "enclosure," or "fenced field," and equals Ch, or audible H.

A fence is built around a house or field to establish its rightful boundary lines and to permit intensive cultivation therein. Similarly, one builds the atmosphere around his own body as far out as his personal influence extends. Within any "fenced" area of influence, one plants or builds that which he wishes to produce for the good of himself or others. Cheth's work also encloses and protects the walled city behind him - a multiplication of the efforts of The Magician, who built the first house.

All fences are temporary, artificial boundary lines, for land extends undivided beneath them as it always did before they were built and always will when they are gone. The very nature of a fence necessitates that one day all must be broken down in order to do away with the false notion of separateness, and so that we may recognize and unite with the One God. The temporary fence makes possible some specialization, as in gardening, and helps keep out alien influences while the crop is tended and its growth nurtured along.

The particular function of this Key is Speech. Speech can be likened to a fenced area of Sound - thought brought forth into audibility, controlled, defined, and directed.

Whereas Beth, The Magician, using thought, made his personality-house a channel for divine power, here Cheth goes one step further to become driver of his vehicle and manipulator of thought into speech. He has led forth to victory the mental processes and has become king over and through his own mind, earning the right to be called Master of the Temple.

The sphinxes represent the senses - half-lion and half woman - which always pose riddles man must solve correctly or perish in the battle of mastery over lower forces. These also refer to hidden or occult forces, and when controlled they help pull man's chariot.

The questions posed by the sphinxes relate to mysteries of Nature; to answer them at last and pass by successfully is to obtain for oneself the right to immortality. The Egyptian Sphinx was masculine in front and feminine behind to include the dual wholeness of one Being in one person. Pharaohs sometimes wore the tail of a lion or cow to show this.

The lines of control used by the driver are the invisible reins of Mind. Here they have checked the animal instinct of the subconscious and have it under direction, while also partaking of her higher, purer elements shown by the silver crescents on his shoulders. Like the pure silver of heavenly "water," Self is shown here springing up from his stone encasement, as water rises in a well. "A well of water springing up unto eternal life."

Cancer, as the first water sign of the Zodiac, represents the place of initiative waters, the beginning of a rushing stream. A mountain spring runs rapidly down to water the fields below, so from the Great Within of our own personal temple, the powers flow down into daily experience.

The energy referred to is likened to "water," in that it ebbs and flows and has a purifying aspect; for all forms are held in suspension within it or are dissolved therein.

Until now, the waters of subconsciousness have been seen in their natural state, undifferentiated, the stream of consciousness flowing quietly in the background.

But here, a fence is built, and the subconscious substances are enclosed, even as a well may be encased with tiles, or a fountain with marble, that the water may be used and its flow controlled. Thus, one may have use of pure water in his own abode.

Cancer is the sign of this Key - the protective and parental sign which shelters and nurtures the younger or the weaker until they have gained the strength of independence. Cancer is ruled by the Moon, whose corresponding metal is silver and whose element is water. Its symbol is usually a crab, and this shape is suggested by the brass breastplate, a Venus-metal referring to the protective power of imagination.

The square on his chest, with its three Tav's, is at the center of four pillars like the Self at the center of the Cube of Space. The lunar masks on his shoulders compare with the facial expressions of the two sphinxes, the one indicating a positive or waxing crescent and the other a negative or waning one. There is also reference in this to the pillars of polarity in Key 2 and all pairs of opposites.

His belt, slanted like the plane of the ecliptic, refers to the encirclement of the zodiac and to the boundaries of Time, while the whole celestial sphere of the starry heavens serves as his canopy. Symbols of magic cover his skirt.

Cypress trees in the background show the imaginative nature of most Cancer persons, and the Venusian growth influence of this fertile and productive sign.

This Key refers both to the womb and to the birthplace of a universe, as intimated by the abounding celestial symbols.

The gray stone enclosure of the chariot signifies that he is a Son of the Father. Ab (Father) plus Ben (Son) equals Ehben, the Hebrew word for "stone." This is again a cornerstone of the foundation which has been a stumbling block for the unworthy or unwise.

The red symbol on the white shield is a Hindu symbol, material and active, called the lingam-yoni, and signifies the continuous process of creation and preservation in the universe. The diamond shows light and brilliance manifested in heaven and earth. The knob below is manifested earth, and the disk is a land between.

His gold and silver staff refers to the uniting principle, the silver-negative moon and the gold-positive figure eight at its top depicting solar forces.

The golden solar disk with its blue wings represents the Sun, with the moist blue atmosphere which brings its rays to earth, or the old Sun god Ra, and his domination of air and space. Wings denote spiritual mission and upliftment. "The Sun of Righteousness shall rise with healing in his wings."

The grail, wafted in by the dove of peace and the Holy Spirit, is sometimes called the "Source of Illumination." It has traditionally been described as pure amethyst (a Purple Color), relating to Jupiter's exaltation in Cancer, but we have used a sacramental cup fashioned of gold, with silver trim and an amethyst band. A reference to Melchizedek (Genesis 14: 18-24) is suggested here.

Seven is a number of mastery and poise - a most sacred number composed of three plus four, which is much used in all religions. The Latin *septem* means seven, while septum means "enclosure" or "wall," emphasizing its connection with the letter Cheth.

Seven has earned the right to rest; for the labors of the Sixth Day are done. Actually, it is on the seventh plane that God rests; He is always working and resting at the same time.

Man has found it both wise and healthful to rest on the seventh day, or Sabbath. His vacation is called a sabbatical leave. The temporary cessation of outer activity brings not only Strength (see Key 8) for the morrow, but also an increase of activity on the inner level, and it is in this quiet space that the still small voice can be heard.

Cheth moves beyond listening and speaks. Through utterance, he reproduces in sound what was heard in silence; for Breath produces Speech when cultivated and mastered. Speech is the function of this Key. This correlates with the religious services of the traditional Sabbath where physical work is temporarily stilled and man listens to the spoken words of God and His prophets, where inner Truths are outwardly expounded.

These religious services, when correctly performed, reiterate the universal principles of the heavens.

While Key 7 represents a grade of attainment through victory over opposing forces, it is not yet the ultimate attainment of the mountain top, or of God-Realization, any more than going to church to preach or listen to the Sunday sermon represents spiritual attainment. Here is rather a plateau near the mountain top - a place to sit and rest before continuing to climb, with the end in view and success assured.

Ideas are carried into the field of consciousness by the vehicle of the subconscious mind. The chariot is a moveable "house," or house on wheels, the vehicle which carries us wherever we will go, having restored the Creator to His Throne.

To quote the Bhagavad-Gita: "The Self is the Rider in the chariot of the body, of which the senses are horses, and the mind the reins." Their field is the universe.

While Cheth builds a fence about each portion to define the boundaries and close out inimical influences; he simultaneously closes in the desired area for more concentrated observation and use of that which he wishes to retain.

But the day of maturity inevitably comes when these fences are seen from a higher perspective, not as barriers to freedom, but merely as tools used for a time, after which one must expand outward to prove his Strength.

A writer may close his door and sit in a small space nearly motionless to concentrate all his energy and attention on a specific work which must be undiluted with other ideas. But when it is finished, he opens the door and goes out to other things. The limitation has accomplished its end, and the fence is removed.

Key 7
THE CHARIOT

The Charioteer is the *Inner Self*. The sphinxes are the senses. The reins by which he drives them (which you will note are invisible) represent the Mind. The Chariot itself is the body, and it is drawn by the sphinxes. Advancement in occult work depends upon the realization of the facts portrayed in this Key, for it is only when we understand these facts that we allow the real Self to guide our personalities. The Charioteer is a victor; this Key represents the *Conquest of Illusion*.

The idea of enclosure, protection, etc., is suggested in a number of ways. The Hebrew letter Cheth means fence or palisade. The sign Cancer attributed to Key 7 means Crab, an enclosed crustacean. The Chariot, the armor of the rider, the wall in the background, the battlements and towers are all symbols of the same idea.

The starry canopy represents the celestial forces whose descent into matter is the cause of all manifestation. On the shield in front of the Chariot is the Hindu lingam-yoni, symbolizing the union of opposite forces. Above the shield is a winged globe. The globe is the Sun. The wings represent the alchemical element of Air, which carries the power of the solar rays. The wheels represent rotation, or cyclic activity. The scepter, a combined crescent and figure 8, symbolizes the combined powers represented in TAROT by the Magician and the High Priestess.

Key 7 – The Chariot

Hebrew Letter: Cheth (ח) – “Fence / Enclosure” 🏰
- ח Cheth means *Fence* or *Enclosure* — a wall of protection, a boundary that defines and safeguards.
- Symbol of the vehicle of the soul, enclosing the life-force for direction and mastery.
- A Simple Letter, Cheth governs Cancer, the sign of the protective shell and nurturing home.

English Equivalent / Value: Ch = 8
- Eighth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

- Value 8 = balance, rhythm, mastery through control.
- Cheth = enclosure that makes direction possible — the body as the chariot of Spirit.

Cabalistic Intelligence: House of Influence
- Called the intelligence that provides a dwelling or enclosure for Spirit's movement.
- Cheth is the vehicle that houses higher influence on the earthly plane.

Aspect of Consciousness: Speech / Voice
- Faculty of utterance, proclamation, and command.
- The Chariot represents the voice of the Self — the Word that directs action.
- Through speech, consciousness declares mastery and direction.

Astrology: Sign Cancer ♋ — Jun 21–Jul 22 (Tammuz / Summer Solstice)
- Cancer = protection, nurturing, sensitivity, the home of the soul.
- Ruled by Moon ☽, governing cycles, growth, and instinct.
- Symbolizes the vehicle carrying Spirit through the waters of incarnation.

Polarity: Speech ↔️ Silence
- Speech = conscious proclamation of truth.
- Silence = inner stillness from which right words arise.

Seasonal Associations:
- Summer Solstice — height of light, protective enclosure of life.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟠🟡 Orange-Yellow
- Orange-Yellow = vibrant speech, resonance, illumination through sound.
- Voice as the light that shapes vibration.

Musical Note: 🎵 D♯ / E♭
- Resonates with the power of utterance, articulation, and resonance.

Path on the Tree: 18th Path
- Connects Binah (Understanding) → Geburah (Strength).
- Called the House of Influence — the path of protection, discipline, and the vehicle of mastery.
- The Chariot = the disciplined will guided by higher understanding.

Cube of Space: East Below Edge
- Cheth rules the Cube's east-below edge — the foundation of direction and protection.
- Represents the protective enclosure moving steadily along the path of Spirit.

Alchemy / Metal: Silver ⚪ (Moon)
- Reflective, receptive, and protective.
- Symbol of the nurturing, protective quality of Spirit embodied in matter.

Attributes:

Simple Letter: Key 7 Ch Cheth Chariot Speech

Aspect of Consciousness: Receptivity-Will (Receptivity to Divine Will)
The way we really achieve the Victory and Mastery is by learning how to become consciously receptive to the One Divine Will. In other words, not "my will be done", but "Thy Will be Done".

Hebrew Name: Cheth (a field enclosed in a fence)
As "Fence", the Hebrew letter Cheth suggests: "enclosure, protection, defense; specific location; an area set apart for cultivation, [also] shielding, safeguard, refuge, safety." The idea of an area set apart for cultivation suggests the concept of a house (Beth, The Magician), and the idea that human personality is basically a house or enclosure being cultivated by and for the One Will.

Also, since the faculty of speech defines and sets apart like "fences enclosing particular fields of consciousness", speech is attributed to Cheth.

Its letter is Cheth (in English Ch) meaning a fenced field or enclosure. This letter is also equivalent to the Hebrew number 8. One protects with a fence that which he wishes to develop.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Intelligence of the House of Influence
This aspect of consciousness (Receptivity-Will) is literally "consciousness of that which is the abode of the inflowing power." In other words, human personality is the house into which the One Will flows (has In Fluency) and has its abode. Human personality is but an instrument of the Self - a movable enclosure or fence.

Astrological Correspondence: Cancer
Astrologically, the sign of Cancer, a water sign ruled by the Moon is related to this Key. It refers to the protection of the mother-aspect. "Cancer, the Crab is a cardinal, watery sign. Here we see the connection between the letter name 'fence' and the crabs hard" shell. The Moon rules the sign of Cancer, meaning that our subconscious patterns (Moon, K2) govern the quality of expression of the personality. Furthermore, Jupiter is exalted in Cancer, meaning that the "Whole Cycle of Cosmic Expression", Evolution, Divine Law, Will and Desire (Kaph, K10), finds it's highest form of expression in those activities In-Flowing through the human body and personality as its vehicles for experience and expression.

Number: 7
Seven is a number of poise, mastery and victory. The Sabbath -- a pause for worship, rest, and recreation. "The more important meanings of 7 are: Rest, safety, security, victory. [...] A perfect Life-power, working in the way outlined in the explanation of [the number] 6, cannot be supposed to fail. Omnipotence must ultimately, no matter what

present appearances may be, arrive at a triumphantly successful conclusion to all its undertakings. The Great Work is as yet unfinished. The Cosmic Experiment has not [yet] come to completion; but when we consider the nature of the Source of that experiment, the nature of the Worker in that work, reason assures us that it must succeed, down to the minutest detail."

Color / Note: Yellow-Orange / D#

Path of Wisdom 18 is called the Intelligence of the House of Influence. "From the blue interior walls of its perfections were drawn the arcana and concealed meanings reposing in the shadow thereof."

The Scene: The Charioteer stands triumphantly in a chariot.

The Charioteer: The Divine Self. The Higher Self. The One Will.
"On his shoulders are lunar crescents, indicating the rulership of the Moon in Cancer. His cuirass is greenish-yellow, or the color of brass, to show that it symbolizes the protective power of creative imagination, represented in Tarot by the Empress, inasmuch as brass is a metal sacred to Venus. [...] Everything about the charioteer suggests that he sums up all the powers of the personages who have preceded him in the series of major [tarot keys]. He is their synthesis."

The Chariot: A moveable fence. A protective enclosure. Representative of the personality as a vehicle. The wheels of the Chariot are symbolic of Jupiter (K10, Wheel of Fortune), which is exalted in Cancer (The Chariot). In the shape of a cube, the chariot symbolizes embodiment - all form is but an enclosure, a vehicle for the Self.

Shield on Chariot: A shield is a form of protection, and the red lingam-yoni symbol on the shield indicates that it is through the activity of the union of opposites that personality expresses. In human personality, there is a reconciliation of opposites. Victory (one meaning of this key) is achieved through the (red) active reconciliation of opposites. Human personality is the reconciler of paradox.

Winged Disk on Chariot: A symbol of aspiration. The disk is yellow, symbolizing self-consciousness (The Magician), while the wings are blue, symbolizing sub-consciousness (the High Priestess). Combined with the symbolism of the shield, implies that through the "union of opposites" an abode of the protection and mobility for the self, is provided.

The two Sphinxes: They represent sensation. The Black Sphinx represents painful or negative sensation. The White Sphinx represents pleasurable or positive sensation. They represent the pleasure-pain principle where people do things either to gain pleasure or avoid pain. In this case, the two sphinxes have been brought to rest, meaning that through the invisible reins of the mind, the Higher Self is in control of the senses and therefore the personality (chariot) is no longer pulled to and fro by the pleasure-pain principle (Sphinxes).

The Canopy: The celestial forces. The subtle metaphysical forces which are above the level of the personality. The Astral Light.

The Trees & River: Combination of the Empress and High Priestess. Both human personality and speech embody Mental Imagery (Key 3) and the Stream of Consciousness (Key 2). The Chariot is a combination of East (Key 3 - Empress - Venus) and Below (Key 2 - High Priestess - Moon). (note: East and Below are references to dimensions on the Cube of Space)

The Chariot represents man's outer vehicle, within which stands the King triumphant, the Self which through the perfect Will of God is Master over all. The field is the universe.

The One Self guides his vehicle using invisible reins of mind to control the senses.

Speech is one of the functions of this Key, in the sense of enclosing a thought with words, in order to define it, or build a fence around it.

The yellow background indicates the thought which precedes Speech. The stream flowing past is the consciousness which permits growth of his field of influence, and again refers to the Moon.

The starry canopy shows celestial forces which are in fact all around us, descending into physical levels through the activity of the four elements, as the cause of physical manifestation.

The four pillars support this, each ringed with the One Spirit. The Chariot of stone "ehben," (Father-Son), acts as a movable "fence" for the Ego.

The crown has three golden pentagrams, mental 'dominion over natural forces.

Lunar crescents on shoulders show phases of the Moon, ruler of Cancer and of the female organs.

His breastplate is green-yellow to represent brass, the Venus metal, and provides the protective power of creative imagination and love. Venusian cypress trees are shown in the background.

Gold neckline and ornaments employ the solar forces. His belt indicates Time and the zodiac, in the slanted circle of the ecliptic, written with the golden light of stellar forces.

The scepter combines a lunar crescent with the solar figure 8 -- his dominion results from a blend of their powers. The development of will, using solar and lunar forces, have already brought down and solidified into forming a vehicle.

The Grail denotes his function of Receptivity-Will, and the gift of transmutation after earthly victories, lifting the consciousness to partake of spiritual life, and brought by the I dove of peace.

On the front of the chariot is a shield with the Indian lingamyoni, a symbol of the union of positive and negative forces and the generating power of the universe.

Above it, a blue-winged globe depicts the son god Ra, and the spiritual mind carried aloft by wings of aspiration; and the gold of solar rays which beam to earth through the blue atmosphere.

The square on his chest with three black T's show limiting power of Saturn. The eight folds of his skirt with geomantic talismanic symbols show dominion over the terrestrial forces.

Chariot wheels of orange, show the solar energy, which causes the revolving motion -- together with the influence of Key 10, or Wheel of Jupiter (the planet exalted in Cancer). The wheels also relate to the whirlwinds of Fire in the vision of Ezekiel and represent the orbits of the planets.

The Sphinxes, Mercy and Severity, represent the senses which are always posing riddles concerning the mysteries of Nature, their reports not always reliable. Here at rest, they are under control.

> Revelations 21: 7, "He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be my son."
>
> The Bhagavad Gita says, "The Self is the Rider in the chariot of the body, of which the senses are the horses, and the mind the reins. "

This Key also relates to the entire solar system as the Chariot of God, called Merkavah.

🎨 Key 7 – The Chariot: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟡🟠 Yellow-Orange (Amber)

- **Path:** 18th Path – Binah → Geburah (Cheth, ח – “Fence”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟡🟠 Yellow-Orange
- **Meaning:** Amber is the vibratory color of Cancer, the House of the Soul. It represents solar clarity united with vital energy, the protective fence of Spirit moving in disciplined direction. The Chariot moves through this amber field as a vessel of will.
- **Symbolism:** Victory, protection, direction of will, Spirit’s vehicle amid the forces of life.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Background, chariot wheels.
- **Meaning:** Mental clarity and illumination guiding forward motion.
- **Symbolism:** Intellect, clarity, sustaining consciousness.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Trees, grass, wreath under rider’s crown.
- **Meaning:** Fertility and natural growth surrounding the path of victory.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, balance, harmony with Nature.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Stream; faces on shoulders (not crescents); wings on chariot front (not disk); canopy and back panel of night-sky blue.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters and celestial canopy of the night sky.
- **Symbolism:** Memory, reflection, cosmic depth of Spirit.

🟣 Amethyst – Spiritual Crown

- **Areas:** Purple band circling chalice stem, studded with rubies.
- **Meaning:** Violet blend of red and blue, spiritual sovereignty studded with life-force jewels.
- **Symbolism:** Spiritual authority, truth, higher power.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Chariot, pillars, wall before city.
- **Meaning:** Foundation of wisdom, the stable fortress of protection.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, structural endurance, wisdom in form.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Chalice, crown, edging of collar and breastplate, ornament in breastplate square, disk between wings, belt (except figures), scepter in right hand (except lunar crescent).
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection and divine vitality empowering the charioteer.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, perfected authority.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection

- **Areas:** Crescents on shoulders and scepter, stars on canopy and back panel, rim of chalice cup.
- **Meaning:** Intuition and psychic receptivity balancing solar will.
- **Symbolism:** Lunar reflection, intuition, subconscious wisdom.

⚪ White – Pure Spirit

- **Areas:** Dove, cuffs, buildings (except roofs), shield on chariot, white sphinx. Headdresses of both sphinxes and skirt design (may be left unpainted).
- **Meaning:** Purity, innocence, Spirit’s unconditioned Light.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit, unity, innocence guiding form.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of Spirit driving the chariot.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit embodied.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Armor on arms.
- **Meaning:** Disciplined intellect and will, sharpened through conflict.
- **Symbolism:** Strength, discrimination, protective willpower.

🟡🟢 Brass – Venusian Metal

- **Areas:** Breastplate (greenish-yellow).
- **Meaning:** Sacred metal of balance, mixing Venusian harmony with Solar vitality.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, endurance, vitality protected.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Hair.
- **Meaning:** Golden radiance of vitality shining through the rider.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, life-force, abundance.

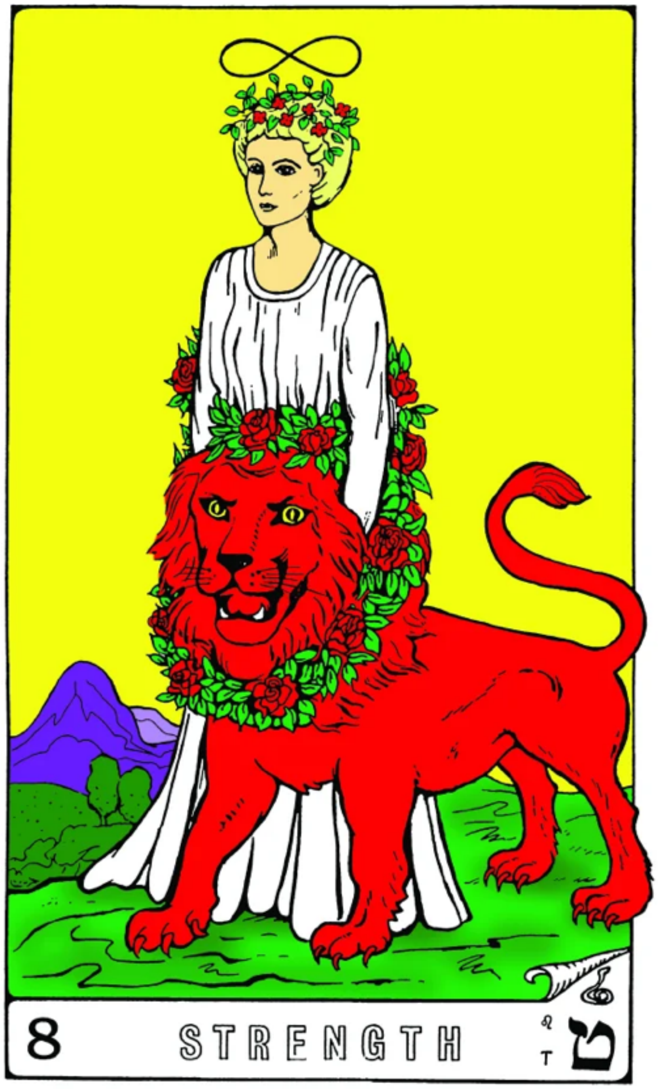
🔴 **Red – Mars, Passion**

- **Areas:** Roof-tops, jewels on chalice, symbol on shield front of chariot.
- **Meaning:** Martial energy, fiery devotion, passion empowering will.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, energy, action transmuted into disciplined drive.

🟠 **Orange – Vital Force**

- **Areas:** Wheels of chariot (orange acceptable; yellow or red used in earlier versions).
- **Meaning:** Active, vital energy rolling the chariot forward.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, enthusiasm, radiant motion.

The Sphinx has several meanings. It is variously pictured with a human head and the body of an animal, the body usually of reverse gender from that of the head. A favored symbol was the lion, and Egyptian pharaohs sometimes wore the tail of a lioness or of a cow behind them to depict the dual totality of Being in one person. One meaning is that of a symbol of Unity amid the multiplicity of existence, of the four Elements, along with the Quintessence of Spirit represented by the human figure.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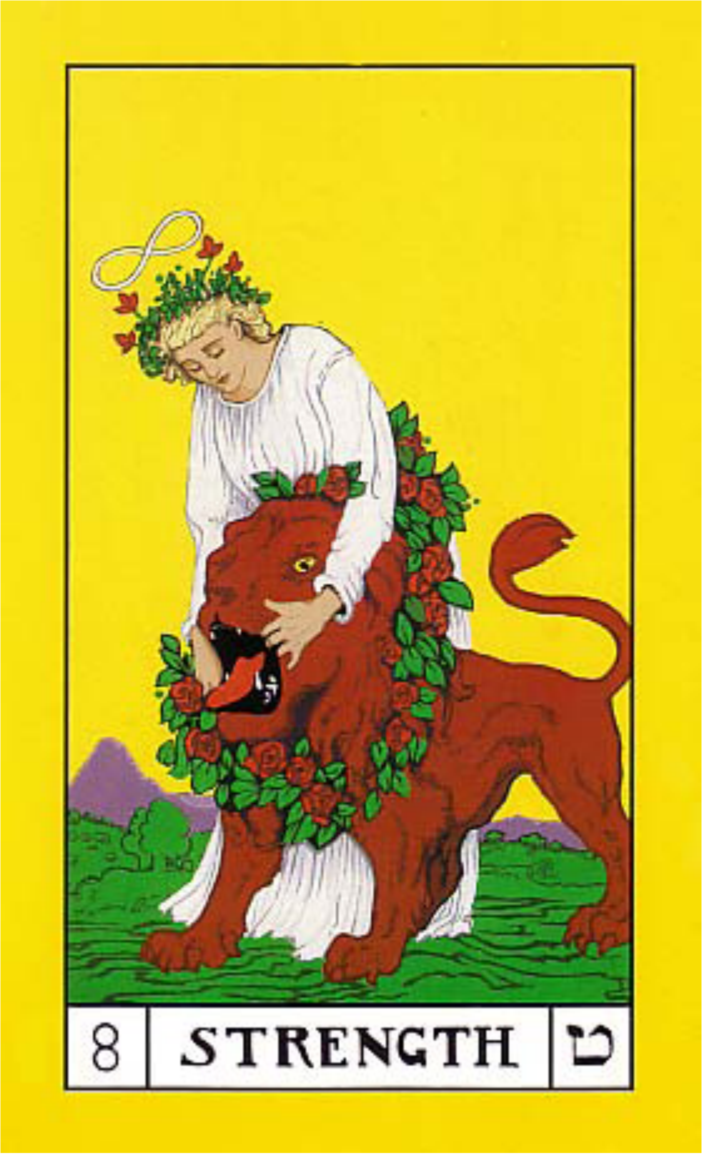
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Key 8
STRENGTH

Letter T Teth - Snake

Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind.

Key 8 is the octave of The Magician; that is, returning to the same idea at a different level. They appear in similar roles, each with the horizontal eight above the head to show the achievement of power and control.

Mercury, the mental magician, used the tools of the four elements. In Key 6, he achieved health through mental balance, and in Key 7, was able to cooperate with Self in controlling the senses.

But the beast depicted here is an inner and living force, which in its wild, uncontrolled state has too often proved stronger than man's mind. It was then the "ravening beast" which tore the vitals with destructive passion, whether of "love," anger, or despair.

Here the time has come to deal with and control this powerful inner agent: Fire in its natural state cannot be allowed to get out of bounds lest it destroy. Yet it is one of mankind's greatest blessings for simple warmth or cookery, even to the eternal flame burning on an altar as the symbol of Spirit.

The direct application of mind cannot be used to control this beast, but a subtler approach from the refined part of our nature, the subconsciousness, is required to achieve this control. The woman depicts that area of consciousness which lies below the surface of direct awareness and begins to take hold and go to work to change the course of Nature when its own nature has been fully purified and patterned.

This is not done by afflicting and mortifying the flesh, neither by destroying the desire nature. But the fragrant red roses of acceptable desires are so chosen and woven together that these form an infinite pattern - a figure eight twined about both woman and lion in the symbol of infinity the endless cyclic flow. The tie of love is meant to be constructive. Red is an active color, here both activating right desire and the desire for right action, in an artfully persuasive way, much as a burly athlete might respond to the refinement of a beautiful gentlewoman.

She has taken the roses from The Magician’s Garden, depending on his earlier work to cultivate this beauty; and it is his patient attention and work which has brought forward the refinement of her own nature.

By taming this great power, lifting it above the animal level and making it submissive, this remains on call when needed, and can be used or called forth to willing action, through Love.

"We love because He first loved us," (John 4:19); and this makes many wish to give their lives back to Him who so fully exemplified perfect love.

Love is a great source of Strength. People are both inspired and empowered in this state to do things far beyond the scope of their normal activity.

Key 8 represents the zodiacal sign Leo (The Lion), physically a representative of the heart and the backbone. Courage is an attribute of Leo, the word deriving from the Latin cor, for "heart." But in slang terms, we say that a person has a great deal of "backbone" when he acts bravely.

The backbone in occultism is the channel for a secret fire called the Astral Light, Cosmic Electricity, or the "Secret of all Spiritual Activities." More commonly, you have heard it called the Kundalini, or serpent force. This force lies dormant in the average man and stirs to wakefulness when the individual begins to unfold spiritually and has gained the necessary mental self-control depicted in Key 7.

If aroused before proper spiritual development, it leads to destructive and dangerous tendencies, and should never be wakened by effort, but should be allowed to unfold by natural stages. ("Let sleeping dogs lie.") The inner spiritual consciousness knows when the time is right, so this becomes a labor of consciousness.

The form of the letter *Teth*, which translates as "snake," is shown in the shape of a coiled serpent. A more ancient form of the letter depicted a snake coiled in circular form, the circle enclosing a cross. This brings to mind Jesus' statement that he must be lifted up as Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness, in order to draw all men to him.

The unregenerate serpent force was made to crawl on its belly for seducing Eve. But the first chapter of Revelation says that in the New Jerusalem, there shall no more be anything accursed. The lifted-up serpent becomes a symbol of healing. The force of the lion-heart, tamed, is a power for good.

In occultism, the serpent force is sometimes interchangeable with the symbol of the lion; at other times, between lion and eagle, Leo and Scorpio, and their respective, yet similar energies.

The unregenerate lion is the serpent which must be lifted up; then with the raising of this natural force to a higher, controlled use, the lion is tamed, and the uplifted serpent force becomes symbolized as an eagle.

The lion itself had three forms according to the old alchemists. Those were: (1) the unripe, or "green" lion of man's unmodified animal or desire nature, (2) then came the red lion with its fiery Mars force controlled and ripened by spiritual progression, and (3) there was the old lion, or the radiant energy called "old" because it has always been.

The Uraeus, or royal serpent, is a sacred symbol of 'Egypt, and serpents have long been used to show wisdom - more specifically secrets of the wise, not given to the unready in whose hands they might have proved dangerous. Their vibratory motion also signified the motion of universal energies, and their self-renewal, through shedding old skins for new, symbolized immortality.

Leo is a kingly sign, as the lion is called King of Beasts. The sun is its ruler and gold its metal. The tribe of Judah, from which Jesus came, had the lion as its symbol; Judah means "praised."

Most of the ancients worshipped sun gods of one form or another under various names. Egyptian priests sometimes wore

lion robes in their ceremonies, and sometimes the solar orb was drawn with rays resembling a lion's mane. Again, the crowns of kings were originally made to represent the solar disk with the points as its rays.

Eight is a number mystically referred to Christ. There is a suggestion in this Key of the succession of signs of the zodiac - from Leo, the lion to Virgo, the Virgin.

The fact that the surroundings are so natural verify the nature of the forces involved. In the background, the mountain shows a degree of attainment, plus the presence of mental energy in the yellow sky.

The wreath of the Lady of Teth is like that worn by The Empress except that flowers have developed among the leaves to show that forces of organic life have moved that much nearer to fruition.

Taste and digestion are the functions attributed to this Key. Indeed, the temptation of Eve came through tasting. When the observations coming from The Magician of mind are true and constructive, the subconscious will eventually take over automatic control of the sub-human processes of nature. Taming a lion is not a natural thing which happens without effort, but this work results in the development of great power and force. You are the ruler both of your own vehicle, and your own personal kingdom.

"In quietness and confidence shall be your Strength. " (Isaiah 30)

Key 8
STRENGTH

This card has a very profound esoteric significance. It is a representation of the great cosmic force which Madame Blavatsky called FOHAT. This force, in the human organism, is called KUNDALINI, the Serpent-Power. There are any number of systems which attempt to tell unwary students how to awaken the sleeping, Kundalini. They are too often successful, and the results of their misguided efforts are human wrecks and derelicts, people driven b madness and obsession. For the fact is that Kundalini is a real force and is as powerful in destruction as it is in integration. Every person automatically receives the instruction he needs to awaken Kundalini when the time comes for that awakening. In the meantime, listen to no one who tells you that he can help you to unfold powers by setting the serpent-force in action. Such practices are the most dangerous known to man.

The proper way to prepare yourself for the time when you can do such a thing safely is to learn how to control your body, your mind and your emotions. lien you have done this you will know what your next step is to be. Kundalini is not a force to be feared. You really use it every day of your life. But you use it naturally, and without giving it conscious attention. For even in its latent state, it is the force behind your activities. It is automatically controlled by subconsciousness. Subconsciousness is the woman in Key 8, and she has the lion in complete control. Because TAROT works by giving suggestions to sub consciousness it works automatically towards the expansion of consciousness that makes for an ever-greater control over continually increasing powers of personality.

Key 8 – Strength

Hebrew Letter: Teth (ט) – “Serpent” 🐍
- ט Teth means *Serpent* — symbol of latent power, wisdom, and the life-force coiled within.
- Suggests the mastery of passion, the taming of primal energy through inner strength.
- A Simple Letter, Teth governs Leo, sign of the heart, courage, and vitality.

English Equivalent / Value: T = 9
- Ninth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 9 = completion of a cycle, the perfected force ready to be expressed.
- Teth as serpent = the power to transform passion into creative energy.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Intelligence of the Secret of All Spiritual Activities
- Called the intelligence that works behind all acts of Spirit.
- Hidden power of life-force that sustains all creative work.

Aspect of Consciousness: Courage / Appetite / Mastery of Desire
- Faculty of taste — appetite, the desire-nature.
- Strength represents discipline of desire, courage, and mastery of passions.
- True strength = gentle control, not brute force.

Astrology: Sign Leo ♌ — Jul 23–Aug 22 (Av / High Summer)
- Leo = vitality, joy, rulership of the heart.
- Ruled by the Sun ⊙, radiance, creativity, and inner fire.
- Represents the heart as throne of strength and courage.

Polarity: Dominion ↔️ Subjugation
- Dominion = mastery of passions.
- Subjugation = enslavement to appetite and uncontrolled desire.

Seasonal Associations:
- High Summer — fullness of life, radiance of the sun.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟡 Yellow
- Yellow = sunlight, clarity, conscious mastery.
- Radiance of the heart-center.

Musical Note: 🎵 E
- Resonates with vitality, clarity, and solar will.

Path on the Tree: 19th Path
- Connects Chesed (Mercy) → Geburah (Strength).
- Called the Intelligence of the Secret of Spiritual Activities — hidden current behind the balance of mercy and severity.
- Strength harmonizes love and power through the courage of the heart.

Cube of Space: North Above Edge
- Teth rules the Cube's north-above edge — fiery will elevated in courage.
- Represents mastery that arises when primal force is lifted upward.

Alchemy / Metal: Gold (Sun)
- Pure, incorruptible, radiant.
- Symbol of the solar heart, illumination, and perfected strength.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 8	T	Teth	Strength	Taste (Digestion)

Aspect of Consciousness: The Law of Suggestion
Subconsciousness (The Woman) always directs the activities of the subhuman forces of

nature (The Lion), and in turn is always amenable to impressions from the self-conscious mind. Subconsciousness is always amenable to control via suggestion.

A suggestion is a "hint” and thus indicates that the subtle or indirect method is the most effective because a suggestion bypasses our conscious defenses and goes straight into our subconscious mind which then elaborates upon the hint and generates resulting images, thoughts, emotions, feelings, etc.

The positive use of suggestion is to "humanize" our drives, and the only way to tame our desires while still retaining their strength and vitality is through Loving discipline (which is neither asceticism, nor indulgence). It is our self-conscious attention to our various states of feeling, being, acting, and reacting, which is responsible for humanizing our subconscious. Desire is sublimated through intelligent reflection and self-examination motivated by Love, and by exercising loving self-discipline in our choices of what "foods" to put into our eyes, ears, minds, and stomachs.

Hebrew Name: Teth (serpent)
The Hebrew letter for this aspect of consciousness is Teth, meaning "Snake, or Serpent", and the shape of the letter itself is in the shape of a coiled serpent. The snake is symbolic of the force which is also known by the names "serpent power", "astral light", and "Fohat". "It is the cosmic electricity, the universal life-principle which takes form as all things and builds everything from within. [...] The serpent also symbolizes secrecy, subtlety, and wisdom."[1] As suggestions derived from faulty observations lead to illusion and delusion, the serpent-power is also known as the "father of lies". "Yet when it is overcome, it becomes the instrumentality of salvation."[2] That which leads us into temptation, eventually does deliver us from evil once we learn to control it. The serpent and the redeemer are in fact the same.

An ancient form of the letter Teth showed a serpent coiled around the Tav, or more literally it was suggested by a circle enclosing a cross.

Attributed to Teth is the sense of Taste and Digestion. As the serpent bites its own tail, so too "the serpent power feeds on itself [...] it is self-sustaining."[3] The Life Power manifests in "various forms of expression which feed upon one another." [4] Also, taste, digestion, and suggestion have much in common in that they all refer to (physical & mental) substances which are digested.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Intelligence of the Secret of all Spiritual Activities
Everything is Spirit. Thus, ALL activities are spiritual, no matter what the appearance. One half of the secret is the fact that "all forces and activities whatsoever are transmutations and conversions of the one Conscious Energy." The other half of the secret is that since ALL is spirit, the secret to success in any endeavor lies in engaging fully but not having attachment or anxiety about the result.

The secret is in knowing that victory lies in knowing how to make this apparent adversary (fear of failure, anxiety, dangerous lion, animal nature, force of nature, serpent power, powerful life force energy) an ally. This is accomplished by realizing that "ends and means", "efforts and results”, are all ultimately the substance and activity of the One Life Power. Thus, there is no failure. Knowing this fact, courage and confident expectation become the primary suggestions which in fact do lead to a successful outcome, whatever the appearances may seem to be.

Astrological Correspondence: Leo
Astrologically, this Key represents Leo, symbolized by the Lion, heart, backbone, and courage. The serpent and eagle are sometimes interchangeable as symbols for the same regenerative force. attributes of Leo are enthusiasm, power, expansiveness, generosity, nobility, courage, fixed opinion, pride. Leo is ruled by the Sun.

Number: 8
"Rhythm, alternate cycles of involution and evolution, vibration, flux and reflux, and the like. It represents also the fact that opposite forms of expression (that is, all pairs of opposites) are effects of a single Cause.”

Number of Key, 8, the number symbolizing Infinity, and rhythmic vibration. Its form shows reciprocal action and reaction, balance, and the fact that all opposites are effects of a single cause.

Color / Note: Yellow / E

Path of Wisdom, 19. It is called the Intelligence of the Secret of Spiritual Activities, "its influence deriving from the supreme blessing and the supernal Glory."

This Key shows the subconscious mind uplifted and regenerated to the point of having gained control over lower elements through constructive suggestion. It has developed beyond the natural instinctive level of animal intelligence, through discipline.

The Scene: A woman lovingly caresses a powerful Lion, holding (open) his mouth.

The Woman: Represents subconsciousness (High Priestess, Eve, The Empress), creative imagination, and the subconscious generation of mental imagery. Dressed in white, she is motivated by purified desire, or Love. She directs the Lion, meaning that subconsciousness controls all forms of life below the human level. The lemniscate (figure 8) above her head links her to the Magician (Key 1) and intimates that subconsciousness is always amenable to control from the self-consciousness.

The Lion: The Animal Nature (the vital animal soul), both within us, and in nature. The fiery Kundalini energy. This aspect always expresses under the direct control of the woman (subconsciousness) whether it appear wild and untamed, sick and lamed, or full of vitality, nobility, and spirit. You can also think of the Lion as an untamed aspect of your personality you are expressing or working on mastering, such as anger, lust, or an addiction.

The yellow sky shows the mental background from which I this subconscious activity stems. Yellow is the color associated with Leo.

Yellow hair shows radiant energy, the wreath of the Empress has now come into bloom.

The white robe shows the purified aspect of subconsciousness now attained.

The 8 overhead like unto Key 1, A sideways (lying) figure eight is called a lemniscate, both signifying mastery of the eternal life-force. indicates that subconsciousness has achieved equality of function, as the result of conscious mastery. The lemniscate symbolizes infinite consciousness, eternal cycles, and balance between opposites

The Chain of Roses: The woman and Lion are linked by a chain of roses, symbolizing desire. We cultivate desire through the rose of Venus, through the drives of love.

The chain of red roses draped like a figure 8 about the waist symbolizes the systematic linking of desires designed to achieve dominion over the lower nature, to "tame the beast." It can only be tamed with love -- the red roses.

In alchemy the "green lion" symbolizes unmodified, unripened animal nature in man. The "red lion" (Mars force) is the same nature, when controlled by spiritual progression. The gold lion is the radiant energy also called the "old lion," because it has always been.

You tame this lion, or beast of your own vehicle, desires and appetites, even your very cells, by changing the pattern of reactions, making them positive, courageous, and constructive. He then becomes your servant, his natural strength a great tool.

The open plain shows that there the forces being controlled and worked with are those of nature rather than artificial implements of man's invention.

The mountains in the background intimate some attainment has been achieved.

Teth is drawn to look like a coiled snake. This coiled force is related to the kundalini, dormant in most persons. It becomes automatically active with spiritual development, but is dangerous in unready, inwardly uncleansed vehicles. Ever renewal is inferred by the shedding of skins, thus Infinity.

> Jesus said, "Be ye wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Matthew 10:16.
> In other words, be as clever as those who would beguile you,
> but with pure and spiritual intentions.
>
> "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must
> the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him
> should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:14.

🎨 Key 8 – Strength: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟡 Yellow
- **Path:** 19th Path – Chesed → Geburah (Teth, ט – “Serpent”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟡 Yellow
- **Meaning:** Yellow is the solar brilliance of Leo, the Lion. It represents vitality, illumination, and equilibrium. Strength is the inner mastery of passion through radiant consciousness, not force but luminous balance.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, equilibrium, courage, solar vitality, mastery of passion through conscious will.

🟡 Yellow – Solar Light

- **Areas:** Background; lion’s eye.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity illuminating strength through vision.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, radiant equilibrium.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Foreground, foliage, rose leaves, leaves in woman’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Harmony and natural fertility growing under balanced power.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, harmony, love’s fertility sustaining courage.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Mountain in background, extending across horizon.
- **Meaning:** Blend of fiery Mars and Saturn’s limit, mountain of initiation.

- **Symbolism:** Spiritual authority, higher truth, sovereignty of Spirit.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Woman’s dress, lion’s teeth.
- **Meaning:** Purity and innocence clothing the figure of inner mastery.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit unconditioned, innocence, clarity of purpose.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

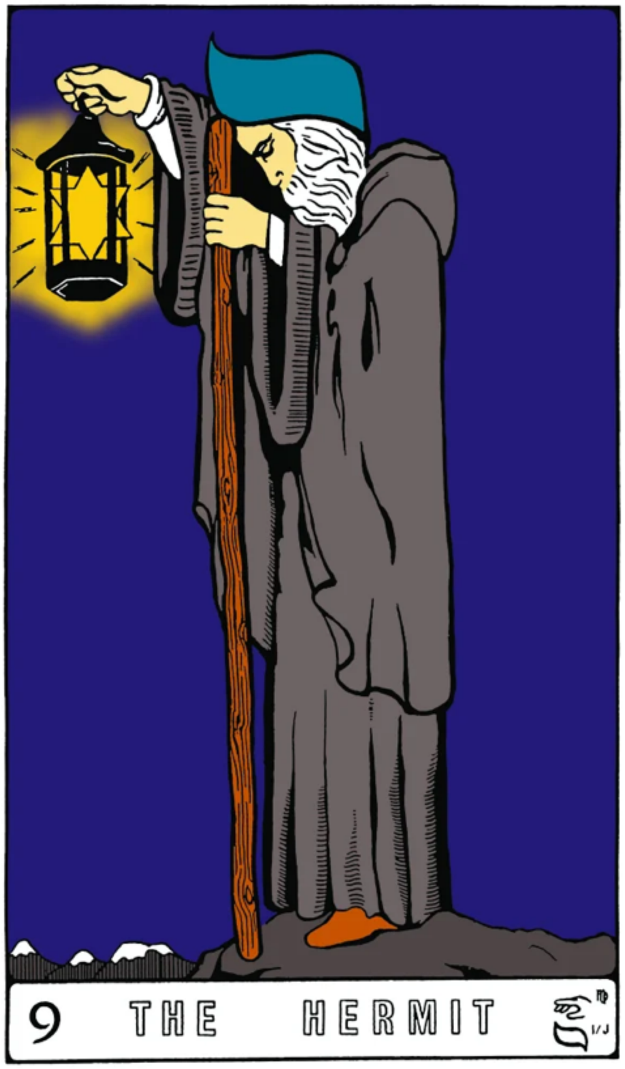
- **Areas:** Woman’s hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of Spirit in the work of inner strength.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit embodied, universal humanity.

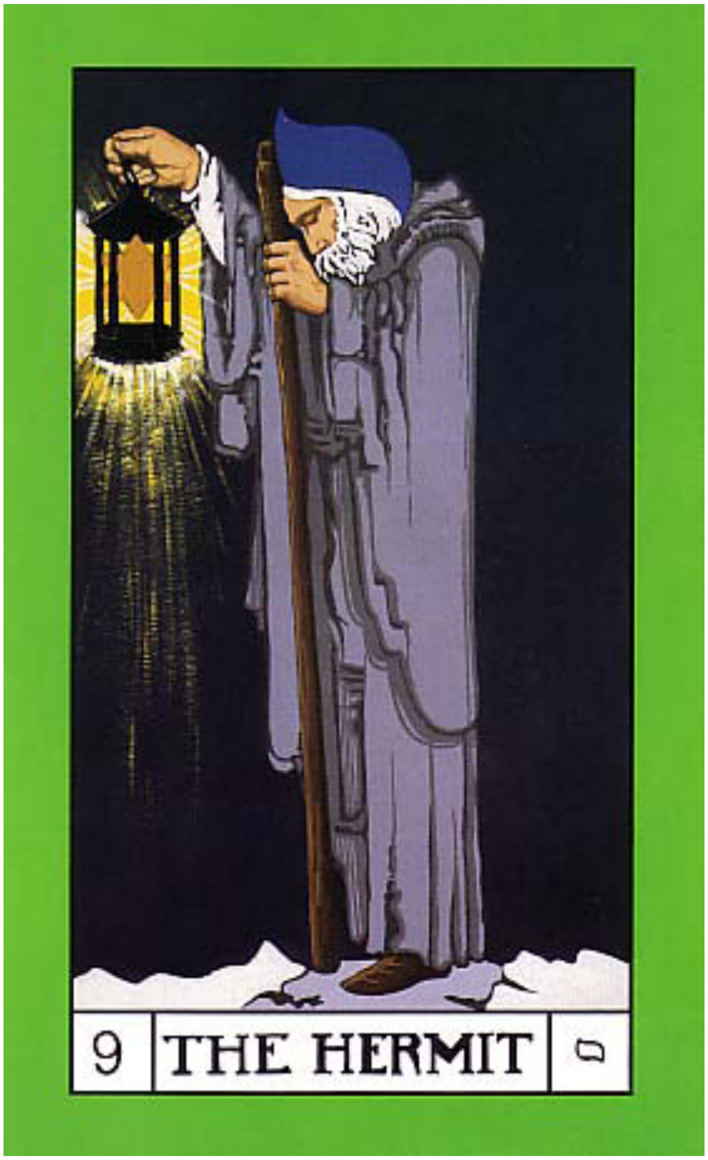
🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Woman’s hair, lion’s teeth (highlight).
- **Meaning:** Golden radiance of vitality, solar innocence.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, fruitfulness, luminous strength.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Lion’s body, roses, flowers in woman’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Fiery vitality and desire transmuted through gentle mastery.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, courage, life-force, power balanced by love.


9
THE HERMIT
♍
I/J


9
THE HERMIT

Key 9
THE HERMIT

Letter I, J or Y Yod - Hand

All things are included in Yod, wherefore it is called the Father of all.

Only now, when control has been established over the beast of animal nature, can one go on toward the summit of attainment.

Nine is the number which stands for completion or attainment. The ninth month is September of the sign of Virgo, represented in this Key.

Here, The Hermit completes the building work begun by The Magician in Key 1 - The Magician representing Mercury, the planet of mental awareness. Mercury rules both Gemini and Virgo, but Virgo is the sign of its exaltation so that here he finds his highest expression, or the perfection of his purpose, as far as he can go *consciously*.

He has used the staff, a symbol of the Kundalini (referring to Key 8) to help in his climb. It is colored yellow, in reference to that Path, while its seven knobs suggest the seven mystic centers along the spine.

A mountain, symbolically, has the shape of a triangle or three-sided figure, of the element earth. The mind must climb to its peak aided by the staff of will and by the Light of the lantern which is composed of two interlaced triangles representing the Star of David, the "beloved."

The lantern is of reflective silver, which helps to magnify and radiate the gold, and give a brighter light at night. This is the Light begotten of Union with the Divine - the triangle again representing man's consciousness lifting its apex as high as it can go, where it meets and draws down the triangle representing the consciousness of God so that, as they unite, universal consciousness is born within the individual.

This becomes a Light in him, wherewith he can help lead others upward by the same Way, and he becomes as Jesus advised, not a hidden flame, but a lamp set upon its stand, or a city on a hill (Matthew 5: 15- 16).

This is no common achievement, and therefore, he stands at this point alone. But even if a crowd were about him, he still must stand in solitude at this point on the Way and go through these experiences alone; for they are inner attainments which can be shared with no one but God.

Numerically, Zero represents the Source, and Nine the goal. Here at the end of his endeavors, having gone as far as Mind can reach, he stands just at the threshold of inner planes, of the beyond, as one stands on the stage in front of curtains about to open; for the end of every cycle marks the beginning of another.

The number 9 is the square of 3 (being 3 times 3); therefore, it represents the completion or perfection of those things represented by 3. The number 3 has been revered in many faiths as a divine number, representing in Christianity the Sacred Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The number 2 simply creates a polarity or rhythm where force can travel back and forth, but 3 establishes a continuity whereby force can flow around and back to the starting point, and, as a triangle can be fitted inside a circle, the line continues around.

Nine is the number of the circumference of every circle (360 degrees: 3 + 6 + 0 = 9). There are nine rays extending from The Hermit's lantern, in accordance with a Cabalistic teaching which says, "When he is conformed, he produceth nine lights ...."

The number 9 was somewhat feared by the ancients since it was the final digit and, therefore, presaged changes involving the unknown. Its form is rather like that of the generative egg from whose lower side seems to flow the spirit of life. (The number six is just reversed; the egg with an up reaching aspiration.)

Virgo is the sixth sign of the zodiac, whereas Gemini is the sixth month and the sixth Key of Tarot. Both are ruled by Mercury; both are concerned with healing. The hands come under the rulership of Gemini and of Raphael, the Archangel of Mercury and of healing, as shown in Key 6. The messenger of the gods, Mercury, in ancient times was depicted carrying a caduceus, still used as a healing symbol by the medical profession.

The Hebrew letter Yod of Key 9 corresponds to I, J, or Y in English, but the word Yod means "hand" in the sense of the open, or creative, Hand of God extended as in blessing. It refers more to the abstract than to the active and, like the left hand, more to openness and fair dealing than to skill or craft. It specifically implies the hand as the delicate organ of Touch. Here man "touches" the heaven worlds and achieves union through contact with that Above.

Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs for this letter pictured a hand outstretched. Masters and Adepts may be considered as the Hands of God.

Since the zodiacal sign for this Key is Virgo, ruling health, we may also designate Yod as the Healing Hand. The laying on of hands in healing permits spiritual forces to move through and effect the transformation which often appears miraculous.

Here again we must have previously accomplished the lesson of Key 8; for successful healing of self or others necessitates the beast of emotions under perfect control. Health demands equilibrium and right thinking, and proper channeling of the powerful energies within.

The will to live is one of the most important factors in bringing a person through a crucial health situation, or the will to work, or the will to walk - some objective which makes it worthwhile to go on, not to give up.
Fittingly, The Intelligence of Will is the Qabalistic assignment of this 20th Path of the Tree of Life. It is important to set aside personal self-will as unreal, knowing there is but One Will in reality - the Will of God; and as we function in it, we achieve peace within ourselves. "The Will of God includes Wisdom and His Wisdom is His Will."

The influence of this Path on the Tree flows downward from the grade of Exempt Adept to that of Lesser Adept. As Exempt Adept, he has already freed himself from obligation to the lower worlds but has chosen to remain there for the time being in order to draw upward, by his example, the mass of people below.

The letter Yod, fashioned like a small flame, is the basic component of most of the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew

alphabet, which was sometimes called the "flame alphabet," or square Hebrew, and is believed to have been developed during the exile of the Hebrews in Chaldea and to have carried with it some Chaldean derivatives of ancient wisdom teachings. In some of the other Keys, we see Yods dropping down like flames from heaven.

The Qabalah states: "Yod is above all, and with Him is none other associated." This is personified in the life of a Hermit devoted to God. "Hermit" is a better term here than recluse, suggesting the association with Hermes.

Yod is the first letter of the Tetragrammaton or unpronounceable Name of God, spelled JHVH. The omitting of vowels, after the manner of written Hebrew, caused its pronunciation to become forgotten with time.

With the first letter "J" (Y or I) is depicted the beginning of creation and of all things manifest. It is said: "The Word is the fust-begotten, not the first-created, Son of God."

Yod is called: The animating Spirit of Fire; the Generative Principle; the Creative Energy of the Deity represented as a point, and that point as the center of the circle of unmanifested Deity; the Absolute Who has no name. It is given the meaning of the Divine Energy, manifested as Light, creating the Universe.

The Cause of Causes made ten numerations and called the Source of Spring "Kether" (Corona, the Crown), in which the idea of circularity is involved, for there is no end to the outflow of Light; and therefore, He called this, like Himself, endless - even as the Zero is endless.

For this also, like Him, has no similitude or configuration, nor any vessel or receptacle wherein it may be contained.

After thus forming the Crown, He constituted a certain small receptacle, the letter Yod, and filled it from that Source. And this is called the Fountain gushing with Wisdom. Manifested in this, He called Himself Wise, and the vessel He called Chokmah, or Wisdom.

(Chokmah is not absolute Wisdom of Itself, but is wise by means of Binah, understanding, wherein He fills Himself as from a reservoir, and without which He would be dry and unintelligent.)

The cap of The Hermit is shaped like a Yod and colored blue. This blue is in remembrance of benevolent Chesed, the Sephirah from which this Path flows toward the Sun imitating the Cosmic Process of meditation.

The darkness of the background of this Key represents the inner, hidden or subconscious field of Divine Operation. Our contact with the One is an interior contact just as our most important transformations are those occurring below the level of conscious awareness, even though they are the outgrowth of conscious effort.

The heights seem cold, dark and abstract to observers, but this ice refers to subconscious substance, the "water" which has crystallized.

The gray cloak designates the Wisdom which keeps him warm, while at the same time, for their own protection, concealing the mysteries from the gaze of those unprepared.

He shows the virginity of one who has become virginal through inner purity, willing service and mastery over mind, emotion and matter. He has "lifted up" the serpent powers and lighted his lamp with their oil - the wise virgins at the bridal door.

All great avatars, as the Christ within oneself, are said to be born of a virgin in the dark cave of the House of Bread (Bethlehem). For here the Life-Power "weaves the vesture" or a finer vehicle through which one eventually becomes aware of his union with God.

Virgo is the sign of work and service, as well; and persons born with the Sun positioned here (ideally) show a special readiness and willingness to work and serve, being diligent and meticulous. The secret of Virgo's purity is that at its best, it acts above the level of desire - without the shadow of self between.

The magical secret of Will lies in perfect obedience to Divine will discovering our true place in nature; then do we enter into freedom, power and happiness. This requires constant practice of remembering that one's personal life is guided directly by the

Higher Intelligence. One must be open and receptive - not only daily, but hourly - to the influx of Spirit from above.

Key 9
THE HERMIT

The Hermit represents the ONE IDENTITY, or I AM. He represents the consciousness of the man who has attained *enlightenment,* and he stands upon the mountain peaks as a light bearer for those below him on the path. He is solitary, alone. This symbolism points to the fact that in reality the central Self of every one of us, which seems to us to be separate from every other self, is that same ONE IDENTITY. Because this Key represents the ONE IDENTITY, it also symbolizes Will, since the manifested universe came into being by an act of the Primal Will of the ONE IDENTITY.

The Hermit's grey robe, by its color, symbolizes the neutralization of all of the pairs of opposites in manifestation by each other, because opposite colors mixed equally produce grey. The staff corresponds to Will and the Archetypal World. He stands in darkness, because what is behind our personifications of the Supreme Reality is dark and incomprehensible to our intellects. Yet he carries the golden six-rayed light, symbolizing cosmic principles and laws. As our consciousness awakens to the understanding of these laws the darkness recedes as the light shines more brightly, until at last we find ourselves upon the heights to which we now aspire.

Key 9 – The Hermit

Hebrew Letter: Yod (י) – “Hand” ✋
- י Yod means *Hand* — symbol of work, skill, and the spark of individuality.
- Suggests the power to shape, guide, and accomplish through precise action.
- A Simple Letter, Yod governs Virgo, the sign of service, prudence, and analysis.

English Equivalent / Value: Y = 10
- Tenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 10 = completion and new beginning, the whole contained in a single point.
- Yod is the “seed-point” of all letters, the primal jot from which form emerges.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Intelligence of Will
- Called the intelligence that prepares and directs the unfolding of creation.
- Represents purposeful action and skillful execution.

Aspect of Consciousness: Prudence / Work / Inner Guidance
- Faculty of work expressed through the hand.
- The Hermit embodies patience, careful discrimination, and steady progress.
- The lantern symbolizes inner light guiding through solitude.

Astrology: Sign Virgo ♍ — Aug 23–Sep 22 (Elul / Harvest Season)
- Virgo = discrimination, service, practical wisdom.
- Ruled by Mercury ☿ — analytical thought, detail, and precision.
- Represents the harvest, refinement, and service of Spirit in matter.

Polarity: Work ↔️ Rest
- Work = constructive service guided by wisdom.
- Rest = renewal of strength, preventing exhaustion and imbalance.

Seasonal Associations:
- Harvest season — careful preparation, gathering, and refinement.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟡🟢 Yellow-Green
- Yellow-Green = prudence, moderation, balance in action.
- The middle tone of growth — tempered vitality.

Musical Note: 🎵 F
- Resonates with careful balance, subtle discernment, and gentle progress.

Path on the Tree: 20th Path
- Connects Chesed (Mercy) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Intelligence of Will — the guiding hand shaping the movement of Spirit into harmony.
- The Hermit = the inner guide leading the soul with the light of prudence.

Cube of Space: North Below Edge
- Yod rules the Cube's north-below edge — foundation of work and service.
- Represents steady grounding, the hand of Spirit shaping matter from below.

Alchemy / Metal: Mercury ☿
- Reflective, mutable, analytical.
- Associated with refinement, healing, and the hand of alchemy.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 9 Y Yod Hermit Tough

Aspect of Consciousness: The Law of Response
Personal action is really a response to Super-Conscious influence. "All personal action is derived, reflective, responsive." Nothing is self-caused from a personal, separate self. Personality is but a mask for the One Self. All activity is in response to the initiative of the One SELF. This fact cannot truly be known until one has had the "experience" of complete Union with the One Supreme SELF. This Union is the goal of

spiritual aspiration, yet even this desire is itself but a response to the Will of the One Supreme SELF.

Hebrew Name: Yod (open hand)
The Hebrew letter Yod means "the open hand of man." "Yod indicates power, means, direction, skill, dexterity". Yod, however, is a sign of potency or predisposition rather than of actual activity. "It is a type of beneficence, and of the freedom of the Supreme Spirit."

The sense of Touch and the function of Coition is attributed to Yod. "Esoterically, Yod corresponds to the experience of union with the Supreme SELF, the true I AM of the cosmos. This experience, intensely blissful, is often compared [...] to the intense physical ecstasy of the sex embrace.”

The letter is YOD, in English "J", "Y", or "I", and it means "hand," as the open or creative hand. This letter resembles a flame in formation, and is the foundation of most Hebrew letters. It is the flame of spiritual energy present in all forms of Life-Experience; its upper point represents Primal Will, the remainder Wisdom. Basis of the Chaldean, the Square Hebrew or Flame Alphabet.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Intelligence of Will
Will, in this instance, translates to "pleasure, intent, purpose, determination." It is firsthand knowledge that there "is but one Free Will in the universe, of which Free Will all things and creatures are personal expressions."

Astrological Correspondence: Virgo
Virgo, the virgin, is attributed to Yod. "The Virgo personality says: I utilize, serve, harvest, dissect, worry and sympathize. I'm selective, modest, serious, industrious, health-conscious, humane and adept at details." Virgo " is ruled by Mercury (Key 1) and is also the sign in which Mercury is exalted. Virgo, is dominated, therefore, by self-conscious initiative, and represents the state in which the highest manifestation of self-consciousness is experienced." "Virgo rules the intestines, where digestion (K8) is completed, and where the final selection is made between" what is to be assimilated, and what is to be rejected.

Astrologically, he represents the earth-sign Virgo, which rules the digestive tract. This is the virginity attained through reaching true inner purity, and self-giving service. Virgo is ruled by Mercury, and he shows the highest operation of the law begun with the Magician. Here Mercury, exalted in Virgo, reaches its highest state, for now the Magician has reached a point of losing "self' to identify with the I AM.

Number: 9
"Completion, attainment, fulfillment, the goal of endeavor, the end of a cycle of activity. Qabalistically called Foundation. Three times three, or perfection of the number 3. Yet, because 8 indicates Rhythm as part of the creative process, completion is not

absolute cessation. The end of one cycle is the beginning of another. [...] Nobody ever reaches a point where nothing more remains to be hoped for, where nothing remains to be accomplished. Every End is the seed of a fresh Beginning."

Numerical value of the Letter Yod is 10, as tenth letter of the alphabet.

Color / Note: Yellow-Green / F

Path of Wisdom 20 is called the Intelligence of Will, and "it forms all patterns and prepares each individual for demonstration of the existence of the primordial glory, through Primordial Wisdom. "

The Scene: A wise old man holding a lantern stands atop a snowy mountain peak and looks down upon the path below.

Old Man: The Most Holy Ancient One, the Primal Will, The ONE. He is the source of all, yet he is also the goal of all endeavor. Spiritual aspiration aims at the UNION of personal consciousness with the Cosmic Will which is the causeless cause of all manifestation. The Hermit (9) and the Fool (0) are two aspects of the same One Thing. The Absolute is both the goal of existence (9) and the source of all (0).

The Hermit has climbed as far as a human can go on earth, the highest point of physical earth, where he unites with the divine, feet on earth, head in heaven.

Function of this Key is Touch. The hand of man is sensitive to touch, and union with God is also a contact, similar to touch.

Lantern: The light is a 6 rayed star, its interfaced triangles the symbol for union. It is held aloft for the benefit of those who toil upward towards him. The star indicates that discrimination (6) is the source of enlightenment.

The lantern, his own Light which he bears, shows the six-pointed Star of David the Beloved, a symbol of Universal Love. Virgo is also the sixth sign of the zodiac, and a sign of service to others.

Behind him is the Darkness, a symbol of the Unknown and Unknowable. Its indigo color signifies the Akasha, and Absolute, the Radiant Darkness, and the hidden, interior Primordial field of Divine Operation.

His Yod-shaped cap is blue to symbolize the activity of memory and the sub-conscious mind. He looks back whence he came, meditating as does the Cosmic Process itself, while helping those who follow.

Staff: The serpent power of key 8. He used it to climb the mountain. Held in his left hand, he no longer needs it for climbing. His staff is a symbol of Will, of Fire, and of the serpent power which has helped motivate his climb.

The robe is of a gray color symbolizing the Wisdom which keeps him warm. The Divine Mysteries provide their own protection from the unprepared. The hood is lined with yellow for the Light of Intellect.

Mountain Top: Attainment. Snowcapped because to us the Ancient One is an abstraction, cold and far removed from the warmth of everyday life.

Snowy peaks show the apparent cold of those heights of attainment where few have trod, yet his solitude is not loneliness. Snow represents the congealed "water" of Mind Stuff.

On the Tree of Life, he channels the Cosmic Memory from Chesed to the solar Tiphareth.

As the Creative Hand, he represents the Fashioner of Worlds, and the Wisdom which is Foundation of all Knowing even as Yod is the foundation of all letters, the combinations of which become the whole Circle of Being.

🎨 Key 9 – The Hermit: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟣🔵⚫ Indigo (night sky)
- **Path:** 20th Path – Chesed → Tiphareth (Yod, י – “Hand”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟡🟢 Yellow-Green
- **Meaning:** Yellow-Green is the vibration of Virgo, the sign of analysis and inner discrimination. It is the color of growth illuminated by intellect, showing the harmony of Nature and mind. The Hermit walks beneath the indigo sky of contemplation, carrying his own light as guide.
- **Symbolism:** Wisdom, guidance, solitude, the lamp of inner truth shining amid the darkness.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Lantern rays between black lines; inside of hood at back of neck.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity radiating from the lamp of inner guidance.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, inner light of wisdom.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Cap.
- **Meaning:** Memory and reflection clothing the head of wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Subconscious depth, reflective thought.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Staff, shoe.
- **Meaning:** Dense foundation of Nature, stability of support on the path.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, grounding, practical wisdom.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Robe (except white sleeve), foreground (except peaks).
- **Meaning:** Equilibrium of opposites clothing the solitary guide.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, humility, hidden wisdom revealed in simplicity.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Hair, beard, right sleeve, mountain peaks.
- **Meaning:** Innocence and purity shining in the elder's form.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit unconditioned, purity, illumination of truth.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

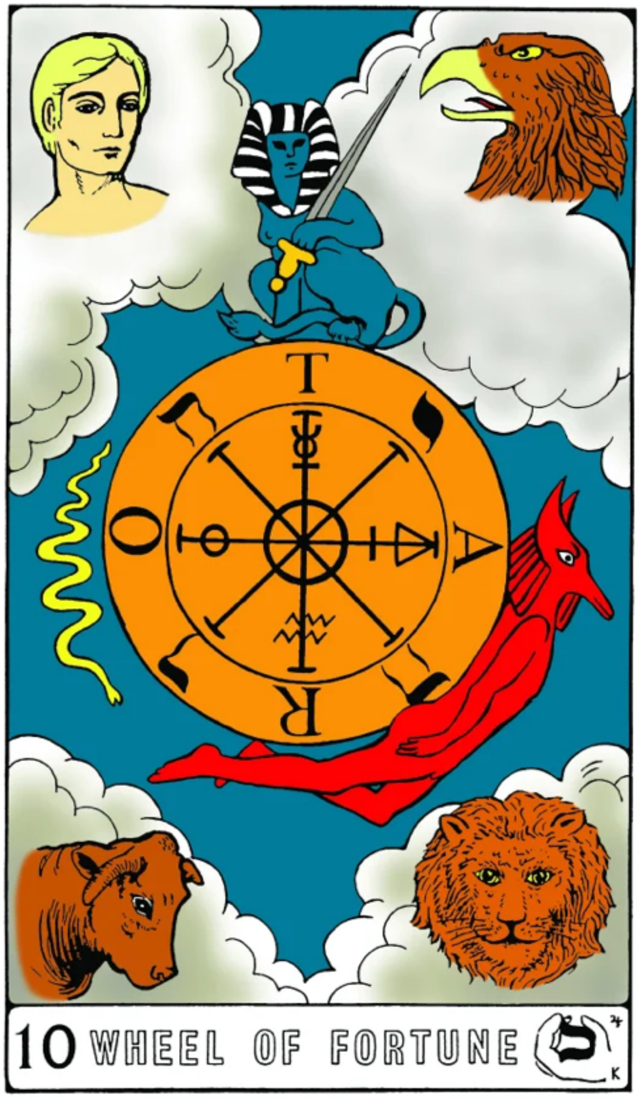
- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of inner wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit incarnate in solitude.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Star in lantern.
- **Meaning:** Solar light crystallized in a six-pointed star, the union of opposites.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, unity, divine spark guiding the seeker.

🟣🔵⚫ Indigo – Spiritual Depths

- **Areas:** Background (night sky).
- **Meaning:** Blend of blue, violet, and black — the hidden depths of Spirit's night.
- **Symbolism:** Mystery, contemplation, spiritual depth of solitude.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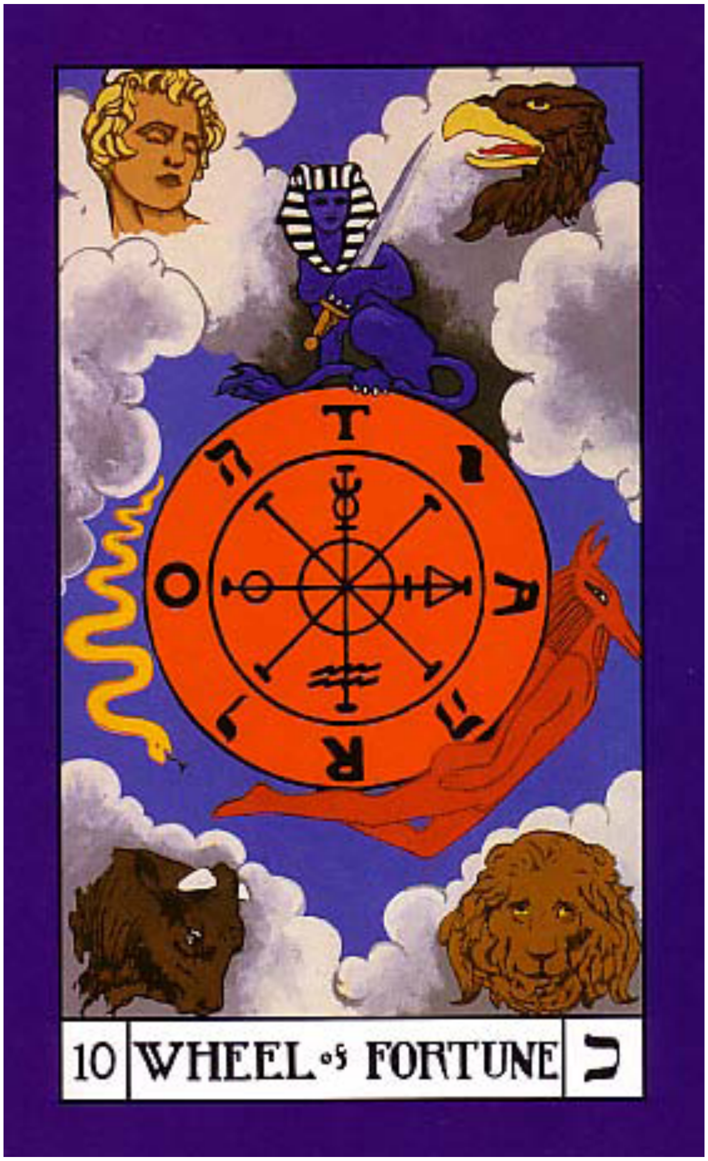
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Key 10
THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Letter K Kaph - Grasping Hand

The eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet is called the Path of Rewarding Intelligence of those who seek. This tallies with its planet Jupiter, the royal benefic and most expansive of planets.

Kaph is the letter of this Key, and it means the "grasping hand," or the cupped palm of the hand. It is a hand of holding or receiving, and being a "double letter," it represents the pair of opposites of Wealth and Poverty. The ancient pictorial glyph of the letter K showed a cupped hand extended as though to receive, while the clasped hand was also a symbol used by Pythagoras to represent the sacred number 10 in which all previous numbers were contained.

Ten is the number of the Lights of Emanation, or Sephiroth, on the Qabalistic Tree of Life. To quote from the ancient Book of Formation: "Ten are the numbers out of Nothing - not nine; not eleven. Ponder on this, render it evident, and lead the Creator back to His throne again."

Ten is called the most perfect number because it includes the Unit which created all, and the Zero which symbolizes matter and chaos, and from which all emerged.

The Psalmist (139: 9) says: "If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Thy hand shall lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me." Truly, He has the "whole world in His hand. "

On the lower levels of spiritual evolution, we seek "things," and consider ourselves fortunate or unfortunate to the extent, that we are able to attract those objects most agreeable to bodily comfort or pleasure, forgetting that the body is a disposable vehicle for temporary use - like an automobile. Such "things" are not harmful to us as long as we keep them in their correct place, but they must remain secondary in importance, being mere tools, not out goal. They must never possess us.

In climbing the path of spiritual attainment, we slowly grasp some grains of Truth and, bit by bit, ponder these things and sometimes try them out. After many lifetimes of seeking, gaining skill, growing, and learning the great Realities (usually the hard way), comprehension finally comes, and we take firm hold of these truths to make them our own. This is the true Grasp of Kaph. Then we know that the important thing is not to have, but to be. "I am that I am."

This gives the perspective of the sphinx at the top of the wheel who is exempt from its revolutions, having overcome and gained the great summit. But let us look again for a moment at the wheel, from the level of the material minded.

Such a one would gamble all in a game of chance, a turn of the wheel, trusting to make a "fortune" thus. He would make a new beginning, but a false one, with money as his object. And what of tomorrow's wheel? One must not remain tied to this but seek the immortal reward of the greater Quest.

We find the true wheel as represented here based on the orderly, cyclical movements of the heavenly bodies, and all the laws of the universe. The planets rotate on their axes, each at I its own speed, and circle the sun in a steady, orderly way, perfectly timed, yet each has a different Time system all its own.

Each cycle depends on the revolving of some sphere or other back to its starting point. Day depends on the earth's rotation, one complete turn on its axis. Years and seasons depend on the earth's orbit in a large circle, an ellipse around the sun, and back to its starting point.

The sun also moves within the vaster circle of the zodiac, carrying along with it all its planets that not one gets out of place or time. For the sun's energy encircles his own, holding them as in his hand, and keeping all in balance through gravity and mutual attraction. There is always a return to the starting point, with this addition - the rising scale of evolution necessitates that the cycle of motion keeps spiraling upward.

Even the ordinary wheel, which gave civilization a great forward movement, when attached to a vehicle does not turn round and round in a stationary place, but each turn carries the vehicle further ahead, and this is the means of progress.

Key 0, The Fool, was assigned the planet Uranus, grandfather of the gods, whose name meant "heaven." When The Fool came down into manifestation, his symbols were those of inner and primary principles. But 10 adds "one" to "zero" and, having ascended again to heaven, he is renamed Jupiter, the sky-god.

Nine has been reduced to 0 and "Chaos," but with the added components gained from earthly experience of Name and Form. This return to "zero" is above the level of "nine" on the next floor up. This so-called chaos is very orderly, however, and filled with energy and force, nothing static therewith. In this heavenly turn of the wheel, we stand at a brand-new start with no personal knowledge of outcome, but all is in perfect order, held in the Hand of God. He knows.

It is interesting to note that our Lord grew up in Galilee, a Hebrew name which translated means "wheel," "revolution," or "revolution of a wheel," and in India this word is associated with the life centers either of a world or an individual. In fact, the word chakra means "wheel."

A certain Tibetan wheel depicts the basic beliefs of Lamaism in reincarnation. The endless circumference indicates immortality - the six spokes symbolize six divisions of life and religion.

The Tibetans also used a prayer wheel consisting of written prayers stuffed into a wheel; then as the wheel spun round and round, each turn presented the prayer. Larger wheels were used for community prayers.

Our wheel here has eight spokes - the number eight being a symbol of solar energy. This radiates out from the hub at the center which represents pure Idea, or Spirit. Here, at the hub, the central point, is the beginning of the whole creative process.

The middle section, where the eight spokes meet, shows the alchemical symbols representing the three major principles of:

Sulphur - passion and activity

Mercury - mind and consciousness

Salt - inertia and matter

At the bottom of the wheel - is the symbol for dissolution (dissolving to start over): as well as for Aquarius. The outer circle contains actual letters, both Hebrew and Latin, the JHVH or the Hebrew Divine Name interspersed with the Latin word ROTA meaning "wheel." Spelled the other way around, it says Tora, or Law. And in still another way, Tarot.

The four "worlds" are represented here: the Archetypal world by the center point; the Creative world by the inner circle; the next circle shows the Formative world; and the outermost circle, the Material world.

Following this through in another way, we may say: first, the central point represents Idea in Spirit; then radiating out is Light of solar Energy; next the alchemical principles of the elements; and finally, the power of the Word (in letters). Not until after the Word of Creation has been spoken does one arrive at actual form - first with the symbolic forms around the wheel and finally the dense form of actual living creatures, as the whirling force of energy radiates outward from circle to square. The "squaring of the circle" brings in most principle into the dense matter of actual form.

The four creatures in the corners of the Wheel represent the four elements in their densest state of solidified matter, all being symbols of the "fixed" signs of the Zodiac.

The fixation of the principle of Air is shown by the Man, symbol of Aquarius. The fixed principle of Fire is shown by the Lion, symbol of Leo. The fixed principle of Water is shown by the Eagle, symbol of Regenerated Scorpio. The fixed principle of Earth is shown by the Ox, symbol of Taurus.

The yellow serpent, Typhon, depicts the serpent power of Teth descending. It represents the involution of the radiant energy or light vibration of the Cosmos into the field of form.

The jackal-headed creature, the Egyptian Thoth or Hermes (related to Mercury), represents the evolution of consciousness and form of the present humanity - the level of the average man with his intellect just rising above the level of earth's horizon.

The sphinx represents the real Self, which has the answers to the riddle of existence and the universe. A woman's head with lion's body shows perfect blend of male and female forces. This is the state of one who has finished his necessary rounds of incarnation and has "broken the Wheel" of Karma. The blue color of the sphinx relates it to the Cosmic Memory - the stored-up knowledge of Cosmic processes derived from the Sphere of Mercy on the Tree of Life.

Involution and evolution are occurring simultaneously as the wheel turns. It teaches that every happening is the result of causes which preceded it. It has also been said that the whirling or rotary motion is the only one which sustains a self-supported body. The same law of motion applies to planets and to atoms, both of which revolve around a center, and include polarities, or duality within Unity. The rim of the wheel is a line without beginning or end, like a circle, eternity, incessant equilibrium.

Ezekiel's wheels of life in the Bible, Ezekiel 1, were called "Wheels within Wheels," having rims and spokes, and the rims were filled with eyes, or consciousness. Each was attached through spirit to a four-winged, four-faced living creature whose four faces are those represented in Key 10 and again in Key 21.

"Each creature had the figure of a man, and the face in front was that of a man, at the back that of an eagle, on the right side

the face of a lion, and on the left, the face of an ox." All this took place at the level of earth below the heavenly realm. In Revelation 4, similar creatures again appear, but before a throne in heaven.

The clouds are reminiscent of those in which Jesus was taken up when he ascended to heaven, and these reappear again in Key 21. He said he would return in the same way. Clouds are used here to veil the secret nature of the Inner Worlds. They also refer to Jupiter, hurler of thunderbolts and storm.

This Key represents the direction West, which is ahead of us where day ends and the workman receives his pay, both material and spiritual, and harvests his crop according to the seeds which he selected to plant at the beginning of day in the East represented by Key 3.

If the average man could become less concerned with measuring wealth in material goods, he would find more gain on all levels, especially the kind he could take with him.

Key 10 – The Wheel of Fortune

Hebrew Letter: Kaph (כ) – “Palm of the Hand” ✋
- כ Kaph means *Palm* — the open hand of giving, receiving, and grasping destiny.
- Symbol of fortune, capacity, and the grasp of cycles.
- As a Double Letter, Kaph governs Jupiter, the expansive power of growth and law.

English Equivalent / Value: K = 20
- Eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet (value 20).
- Value 20 = the hand doubled, symbolizing greater capacity, influence, and responsibility.
- Kaph as palm = the hand of fate turning the wheel of time.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Rewarding Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that receives and distributes according to works.
- Represents cycles of expansion, justice, and reward in due season.

Aspect of Consciousness: Fortune / Expansion / Abundance
- Faculty of grasp — the hand that turns, receives, and gives.
- The Wheel symbolizes the turning of cycles, law of cause and effect, and the rhythm of growth.
- Consciousness of abundance, generosity, and law.

Astrology: Planet Jupiter ♃ — Day: Thursday (Thor’s Day)
- Jupiter = expansion, generosity, justice, law, benevolence.
- Governs wealth, abundance, and the cycles of prosperity.
- Represents the ever-turning movement of growth and opportunity.

Polarity: Wealth ↔️ Poverty
- Wealth = expansion through right action.
- Poverty = contraction through misuse or neglect.

Seasonal Associations:
- Autumn abundance — harvest and distribution.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟣 Violet
- Violet = majesty, expansion, spiritual abundance.
- Color of kingship and Jupiterian generosity.

Musical Note: 🎵 A♯ / B♭
- Resonates with cycles of fortune, expansion, and magnanimity.

Path on the Tree: 21st Path
- Connects Chesed (Mercy) → Netzach (Victory).
- Called the Rewarding Intelligence — path of expansion, law, and cycles of destiny.
- Represents the generosity of Spirit bestowing abundance.

Cube of Space: West Face
- Kaph rules the Cube's west face — the setting sun, cycle of completion and renewal.
- Represents destiny turning through time, the balance of receiving and giving.

Alchemy / Metal: Tin ⚖️ (Jupiter)
- Strong yet flexible, symbol of expansion and justice.
- Represents generosity, fortune, and the law of cycles.

Attributions:

Double Letter: Key 10 K Kaph Wealth & Poverty Jupiter

Rotation is the key word assigned to the Wheel of Fortune. This is closely related to such ideas as spinning, circulation, rolling, whirling, wheeling, etc. What is meant here is that the symbology of this Key refers to the initial whirling motion in the vast expanse of the root substance of the universe which occultists call the Limitless Light. Differentiations of this primary motion causes all changes in form or quality on every plane.

The title refers to the attribution to this Key of the pair of opposites "Wealth and Poverty." The *Rewarding Intelligence* is attributed to it. and the planet Jupiter, which is called in astrology the Greater Fortune, and is stated to have tremendous influence for prosperity and all benefits when well placed in a horoscope.

The Cherubic emblems (Bull, Lion, Eagle, Man) are the cherubs mentioned in Ezekiel and Revelation. They represent the four fixed signs of the zodiac. The wheel itself is the symbol of the whole cycle of cosmic expression. The yellow serpent, whose movement suggests vibration, represents the involution of the cosmic radiant energy, or Fohat, into matter. The jackal-headed Hermanubis represents the evolution of consciousness from lower forms to higher. Finally, the Sphinx typifies the real Self of Man, having finished its evolutionary journey in this cycle of manifestation.

Aspect of Consciousness: The Law of Rotation
Mentally, "the law of periodicity in mental activity, whereby mental states have a tendency to recur in definite rhythms." It is also the Law of Cause and Effect which enables us to be certain of reaping what we have sown. The better we grasp this law of cause and effect, the greater control we have over events. Finally, this is also the Law of Involution and Evolution. Involution is the motion of life from undifferentiated energy down into manifested form. Evolution is the motion of life in the creation of these forms into a series of finer and ever more specific and perfected forms.

Hebrew Name: Kaph (closed, grasping hand)
"Kaph is the hand of man in the act of grasping. To grasp is to hold, to comprehend, to master. What can be grasped mentally is intelligible, clear, explicit, positive, definite, precise." The mental comprehension of the cyclical nature of the Universe leads to greater control over the process of creating and manifesting form.

As a double letter, Kaph is attributed to the opposites of Wealth and Poverty. "These are the extremes of property, the external signs of one's grasp of circumstances."

Letter K, Hebrew Kaph, means "hand of man" grasping, and comprehending. Having tightly grasped, it again gives. "To him that hath shall be given."

As a numeral, Kaph is equivalent to 20.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Rewarding Intelligence of Those Who Seek
The Law of Cause and Effect is always rewarding us with the results of previous causes. In spite of appearances to the contrary we are always and continually being successfully rewarded in the present in accordance with preceding cycles.

Astrological Correspondence: Jupiter
"Jupiter is the planet of good luck, optimism, success, and generosity. Jupiter brings joy to life [...] Jupiter has always been identified with the idea of expansiveness and abundance." "In astrology, Jupiter signifies [those] who have a firm grasp on the comprehensive, lucid statement of ideas in the administration of practical affairs."

Astrologically, it is related to the "greater benefic," Jupiter, our largest planet. Its symbolic color, blue or purple.

Number: 10
"Ten combines the ellipse of Superconsciousness (0) with the vertical line of self-consciousness (1). It is the number of perfection and dominion." Ten is the Power of 0 manifesting through the Agency of 1. It is representative of the manifested Universe - the Life Power, focusing itself down into particular forms.

Key number 10. Here we have the 1 of Beginning, plus the in-between stage represented by Zero, or stepping up one flight to begin another cycle. A number of perfection and dominion.

Color / Note: Violet / A#

Path of Wisdom 21 is called "The Rewarding Intelligence of those who seek. It receives the Divine Influence and distributes by its benediction to all existing things."

Its Direction is West, the time of sunset, harvest, and payday.

The Wheel: "A symbol of the whole cycle of cosmic expression." Comprised of four concentric sections including the central point. These sections correspond to the four worlds of Atziluth (Center point), Briah, Yetzirah (the mental or formative world), and Assiah (physical world). Within the portion of the wheel corresponding to the formative world, contains four alchemical symbols for: Superconsciousness, Self Conscious awareness, Subconsciousness, and Dissolution (The Sign of Aquarius and Man). The meaning is that man learns to dissolve the various forms of appearance which surround him, extracts their essence, assimilates that essence to himself, and projects into new forms modified by his creative imagination.

The Sphinx: "The real Self of man behind the veil of personality." Symbolizes the One Thing which transcends personality, and which remains motionless above the turning wheel. The Sphinx is the "pro-pounder of the riddles of existence", and the answer to the "riddle of the sphinx" is Man. The sphinx carries a sword symbolizing the element of air, the formative (mental) world, and discrimination. The meaning is that the perfection represented by the sphinx is attained by conquest of the mental world, and this conquest is brought about by right discrimination.

The Serpent: Represents the descent of the serpent power into physical manifestation. The involution of light into form.

Jackal headed Hermanubis: Symbolizes the evolution of form and is a specific symbol for the average present development of the human personality.

Four Corners: The four living creatures typify the fixed, eternal modes of the One Reality which remain permanent in contrast to the changes symbolized by the turning wheel. Cycles of change take place within the One Reality which itself remains unchanged. The bull symbolizes the fixed mode of reality attributed to Taurus; the Lion, Leo; the man/angel, Aquarius; the eagle, Scorpio.

The four figures at the corners are described both in Revelations, and in Ezekiel. They depict the four "fixed signs" and the four elements:

The Lion - Leo, and Fire.

The Eagle - Scorpio, and Water.

The Man - Aquarius, and Air.

The Bull - Taurus, and Earth.

This figure also refers to the mystical "squaring of the circle."

The blue background refers to the power of Jupiter meaning "Sky-father," the ancient god of rain, thunder, and lightning. The electro-magnetic "rain" or circulation of basic "root-matter" with its inner fire, is the substance of physical form.

The Wheel is a symbol of progress, of rotation, cycles, and seasons. Its orange color complements Jupiter's blue, to balance forces. Its rotation shows simultaneously the effect resulting from cause, both ascending and descending at the same time.

ROTA, on the outer rim, is the Latin word for "wheel." This alternates with the Hebrew IHVH, or Yahweh, the Tetragrammaton of the Divine Name.

In the second circle are shown four symbols of alchemy. Below the T is the symbol for Mercury (consciousness); below A is the symbol for Sulphur passion-activity); below O is the symbol for salt (inertia); and below R the symbol for "Dissolution," and the sign Aquarius.

In the third circle are 8 spokes showing universal energy -- like an eight-pointed star, and the eight-spoked wheels on the robe of the Fool. This is also a symbol of Spirit, and the Quintessence.

The Center is the pivot - really the first plane of Creation, the archetypal World. From thence it radiates on out to the outer rim of manifestation - to the Word, and the World of Action.

True Creation begins with an initial whirling motion in a vast expanse of Limitless Light. Motion is not alone circular but also spiral.

Ezekiel 1 mentions, "their construction being as it were, a wheel within a wheel."

The freest part of Creation is the closest to the Center one can reach.

The yellow serpent represents the Involution of radiant Cosmic energy -- light vibration, and the descent of the serpent power.

The red (or active) Hermanubis ascending on the other side, shows Evolution of form, and the average stage of present human development, not beyond the intellectual level. He depicts the Egyptian Hermanubis, human body, and jackal head, who guided souls on their journeys through the underworld.

The Sphinx typifies perfect identification with the SELF, the highest attainment by Self-Realization, as coming through Self recollection. (The blue of Memory.) He also pictures union of male and female forces, and the development of higher senses. He is free of the Wheel of Karma and merely watches while it turns beneath him.

His sword is a symbol of Air and the Word, as well as correct discrimination. It shows the subtle forces of breath at work in Formation.

🎨 Key 10 – The Wheel of Fortune: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟣 Violet
- **Path:** 21st Path – Chesed → Netzach (Kaph, כ – “Palm of the Hand”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟣 Violet
- **Meaning:** Violet is the vibration of Jupiter, expressing balance, expansion, and spiritual sovereignty. It is the highest visible color vibration, the bridge between the seen and unseen. The Wheel turns within this field of divine law, showing the cycles of fate, time, and fortune under cosmic order.
- **Symbolism:** Cyclic law, destiny, expansion of Spirit, balance of opposing forces under divine order.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Serpent; eagle’s eye; lion’s eyes.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity within the turning of the cycle.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, guiding light of consciousness.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Background; Sphinx (except headdress).
- **Meaning:** Wisdom enthroned on the cycle, subconscious depths surrounding fate.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, subconscious knowledge.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Animals; lion tawny-brown mixed with yellow.
- **Meaning:** Bestial strength and material forms subject to the Wheel’s turning.
- **Symbolism:** Earth, foundation, animal nature in balance.

🟠 Orange – Vital Force of Splendor

- **Areas:** Entire wheel.
- **Meaning:** Radiant vitality, splendor of motion, the force of turning cycles.
- **Symbolism:** Energy, enthusiasm, radiant law in motion.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Sword handle.
- **Meaning:** Solar authority, perfected will controlling the Wheel.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, divine rulership.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Sword blade.
- **Meaning:** Sharpened intellect, discriminating mind guiding the Sphinx.
- **Symbolism:** Clarity, discrimination, disciplined will.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Clouds (storm clouds gray with white edges).
- **Meaning:** Equilibrium of light and dark in the ever-changing cycles.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, concealed wisdom, mystery of change.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Man’s hair; eagle’s beaks.
- **Meaning:** Radiant solar power within the forms of life.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, illumination, golden radiance of Spirit.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Headdress; cloud edges; bull’s horns; eye of Hermanubis.
- **Meaning:** Innocence and purity manifest in symbols of power.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit unconditioned, clarity, higher truth.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity subject to cycles yet embodying Spirit.

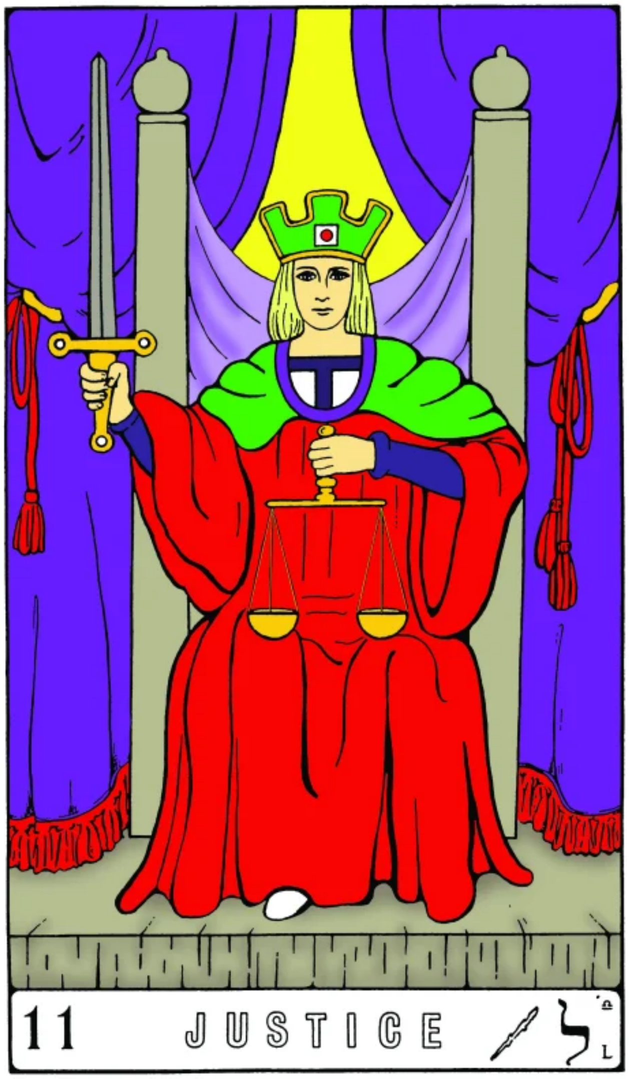
- **Symbolism:** Humanity as vessel, incarnate Spirit within cycles.

🔴 **Red – Mars, Passion**

- **Areas:** Hermanubis (jackal-headed figure); eagle’s tongue.
- **Meaning:** Active fiery energy moving the Wheel’s lower cycles.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, vitality, generative power in motion.

In the words of the Alchemist –

> "But first, of these elements make thou rotation,
> And into Water thine Earth turn first of all.
> Then of thy Water make Air by levigation,
> And Air make Fire, then Master will I thee call
> Of all our secrets, great and small.
> The Wheel of the elements thou canst turnabout,
> Truly conceiving our writings without doubt."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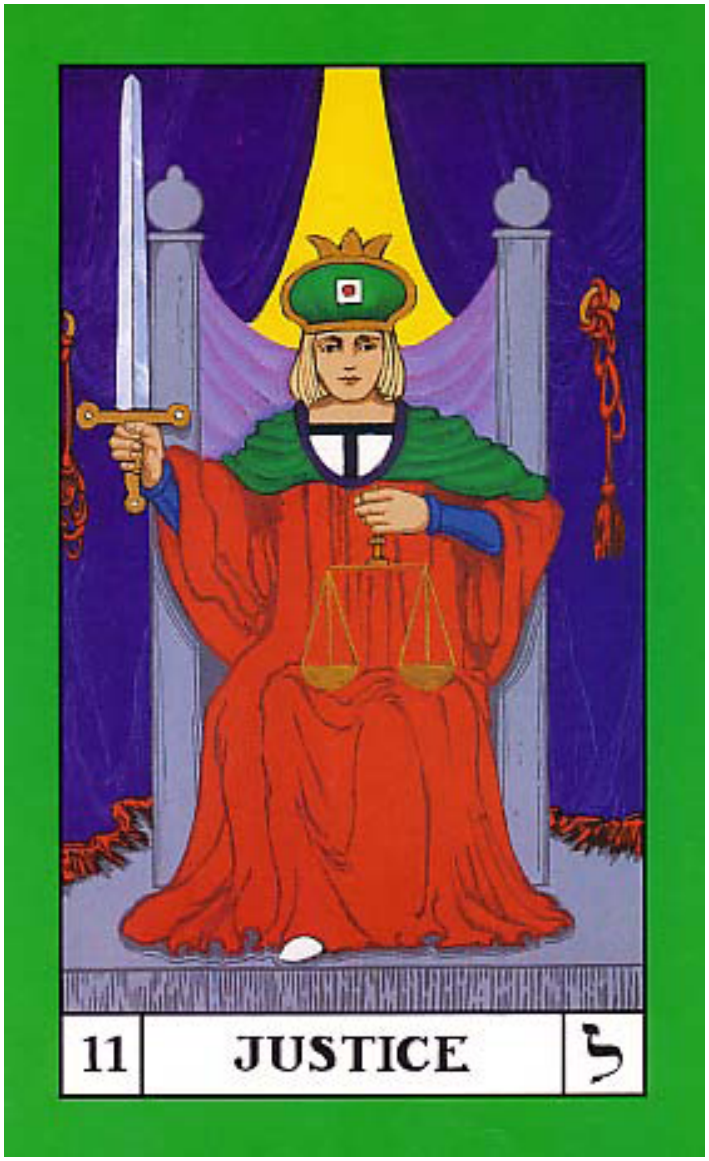
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Key 11
JUSTICE

Letter L Lamed - Ox-Goad

Love not in word or speech, but indeed and in Truth. -1 John3:18

Whereas Key 10 showed a grasp of universal Law, Key11 shows the application of the same Law. The ornament on the front of her crown also refers to the accomplishment of the previous lesson - the circle within the square showing activity (red) of the Spirit manifesting outward into form - but here their usual colors are reversed to signify the blending of polarities in this Key.

The subconscious aspects of being have now developed into balanced maturity, able to take the seat of authority and go to work. As the polar opposite of The Emperor, Justice represents the opposite sign of the zodiac - he is Aries, and she is Libra.

She still retains the underlying properties of The High Priestess shown by the blue undergarment of the subconscious memory stream, along with the green cape of The Empress, Venus, who is also ruler of Libra. She has not relinquished this color of growth, beauty and charm, even in action, but retains the feminine assets to use as a secondary tool.

The touches of white garb held over from Key 8 now shine through in one shoe as spiritual understanding, and the yoke of her gown shows two quarters of a circle defined by a "T." She is the half-way point (half-circle) between The Magician and The Cosmos, Keys 1 and 21.

Within the yoke, the indigo T represents Tav, or Saturn, the planet which is exalted in Libra and here unites its influence with Venus to help bring about the limitation of divine substance into form. The achievement of control through discipline assures the beauty of these forms, as any skilled artisan creates beauty only if his fingers and mind are well-trained and disciplined, this being a work of Saturn.

As Empress of Key 3 she was also a ruler, but only of the inner realm, as she waited quietly in order to foster growth. Here the growing "green" of Venus has matured to a fruitful red, not only its opposite color, but also the color symbolizing the square of manifestation.

Having developed to the point of ruling herself, she may now rule others. Having overcome partiality and bias, the former black-and-white pillars have blended into gray, along with the pomegranates now risen to the top. She is at last able to judge others without favoritism; and only one who has achieved such impartiality as to judge with impersonal detachment, tempered with Mercy as symbolized by her blue sleeves, has the right to judge at all.

The compassion is not an outer thing worn for show; it is worn within, having become a basic garment, as an essence or foundation over which the cloak of action-red is draped. This outer robe is of the color of Mars, ruler of her opposite and balancing sign Aries, he having bestowed it upon her as a token of their equality, as she has learned to act more positively and less emotionally.

The blending male and female forces have brought about a balance within herself, and in this balance, she is able to weigh other things which are imperfect and to justly regulate them, her decisions aimed at bringing things back into balance.

This balance is brought about by equalizing opposite forces or polarities, as shown by the gray theme of throne and floor.

The pans of the scales are like two halves of a sphere which, put together, would make a whole. Justice must be measured out with fairness until each pan holds an equal weight, and they rest evenly.

The scales, like the hilt of the sword, are of the golden metal ascribed to the Sun - solar energy being present in this work. Gold also edges the crown, its triple ornament suggesting by its shape the letter Shin of the Key of Judgment (Key 20). Shin represents the spiritual fire which releases human consciousness from limitation of ordinary three-dimensional sense-experience.

In many versions of the Tarot, Keys 8 and 11 are reversed in sequence, but this is hardly logical, due to the fact that Libra does not precede Leo in the Zodiac. All the other signs are in their correct chronological order.

The number 11 admirably fits this Key. It is made up of two "ones" standing equally side by side. This is the middle of the Tarot series, the Key upon which all others pivot when they are lined up in rows of seven with the zero Key above them all. The two "ones" suggest equilibrium, poise, and balance, as does the sign Libra to which the Key refers.

Libra is the middle sign of the zodiac, or that which begins the second half of the wheel - the "distaff' side (as the marital partner), Aries having begun the first half. The two balance pans could be said to refer to the two halves of the zodiac

wheel and the two polarities. Justice is often depicted wearing a blindfold in exact contrast to the opposite Key 4, whose function is Sight.

We might add here that Eve has now become an "help meet for Adam." She has experienced the sunlight of Reality, shown behind her as radiant Light. But the drapes are heavy and must be actively tied back to reveal the Light.

These drapes refer to the cycles and mechanical aspects of all manifestation, Jupiter's influence shown by the royal purple.

Such observable factors seem to veil the Living Reality behind them, when one becomes involved in studying the intricacies of ever-turning "wheels within wheels." It is interesting to note that the veil of Cosmos in Key 21 is also a violet-colored letter relating to Jupiter, those things which are exoteric concealing the full revelation.

The Hebrew letter of this Key is *Lamed*, which means, as a noun, primarily "ox-goad" - the goad of action which nips the heels of Aleph, the Cosmic Ox of Life-Breath. The letter is shaped like a serpent now opened up and active. Here the hidden magnetic forces go into full action.

One of the activities of this force is to drive one up the ladder of spirituality as though a dragon were breathing at his heels. For God is both the Divine Breath and the Directive Power which stirs it up - the *piata* and the stick which breaks it.

Lamed also means, as a verb, "to teach" or instruct. Instruction itself becomes a goad to right action, inciting the student to keep on, guiding him through "the long circuit of existence." Remember the words of the Lord to Paul in Acts 26: 14: "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts to kick against the goads." Paul had been zealously persecuting Christians, kicking against the very prods which sought to move him in another direction.

The Teacher of Key 5 is also the Ox of Taurus, and the ox-goad helps stir up inner instruction. True education is not the accumulation of facts, of theories, or of degrees. It has the purpose of bringing one back through experience into contact with the true Source of all wisdom, as well as to train man in how to act constructively and to make use of the tools God has given him.

Action, Work, and Karma are the functions of this Key; for the literal meaning of the Sanskrit word Karma is "deed," implying work or action. Karma is the Law of Cause and Effect, of action and consequence.

Jesus said He came not to destroy the Law, but to fulfill it; and "As ye sow, so shall ye also reap." Karma is not fate, but simply a matter of sowing and reaping - a continuous process with both occurring simultaneously. This truth is so simple I that most Bible students have missed it.

The memory patterns of subconscious activity work through Karma, for we are judged by our own acts and words, recorded in the memory of Nature and of our own Soul. We can change our harvest any time by changing the seeds or deeds we plant.

Remember the words of the Book of Activity: "Your action shall be your prayer." Since there is no such thing as inaction, the fruit of so-called "inactivity" is simply loss of faculty – atrophy and degeneration.

"When the scales are balanced in reaping effects, there is no vindictiveness: it is the working of the Law. Because the Law is in His consciousness, and it automatically happens," says our Teacher.

The hilt of the sword shows the T-cross of Saturn. The sword of Zain and of discrimination, which divided the male and female in Key 6, is now ready to help reunite them; for the woman has achieved the Truth of right discernment, or choice, which is not prejudiced. Mentally, one uses the sword of discrimination to eliminate everything useless in life, such as outworn memories and attachments and all negative thought, action or emotion.

Elizabeth Browning said, in "A Drama of Exile," "...The sword's hilt is the sharpest, and cuts through the hand that wields it."

A sword refers both to the power of the Word and to the aggressive action of the Mars energy fashioned of his metal, steel. But this metal is tempered with love, and it is given only to those who have risen above the temptation to use it impulsively.

The sword is also a symbol of the element Air in reference to the tools on The Magician's workbench. A sword helps eliminate mistaken thought or action and cuts out the errors of past consequences as one would separate weeds from grain to give the latter a chance to grow better.

As The Magician lifted his wand for the Will of God to flow through, Justice holds up her sword that her Word and decision be divinely directed. The sword which King Arthur pulled from the anvil has been likened to the Sword of Spirit pulled forth from baser metal.

As the twenty-second Path on the Tree of Life, Lamed is called The Faithful Intelligence. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. We might say the answers to our prayers are molded out of Faith. True Faith becomes a habitual conviction that all things work together for good to those who love God and "whose imagination is stayed on Him."

The Hebrew word for "faithful" is Amn, equivalent to our word Amen - the word whereby a prayer is confirmed. Other meanings of the Hebrew *Amen* are "verily" or "truly". So be it.

It is likely that when Jesus pronounced this word, it sounded like "Ameen," for present day Assyrians, who still use the Aramaic language of Jesus, speak it thus.

The 47th Theorem of Pythagoras: "In a right-angled triangle the square described on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares described on the other two sides."

Key 11
JUSTICE

This Key is the center of the Tarot pack. It stands for Equilibrium, Balance, etc., symbolized by the title and the scales. These also symbolize the Hindu doctrine of *Karma*, which literally means Action or Work. It manifests itself in the form of a Law of *Undeviating Justice*. This doctrine is expressed in the Judeo-Christian dictum, "As a man soweth, so shall he also reap." In physics it is stated that every action has an equal and opposite reaction. It is the entire appearance of cause-effect.

The two curtains, suggesting duality, represent balance by their symmetrical arrangement. The Throne repeats the pillar and veil symbolism of Key 2. The circle and square on the front of the crown refer to the movement of Spirit within material forms. The sword represents discrimination, which is closely allied to the idea of Justice.

Key 11 is the agency through which all of the forces represented by Keys 1 to 10 are transferred to the manifesting powers represented by Keys 12 to 21. This cryptic statement deserves a great deal of thought upon your part. You will be well rewarded for your effort.

Key 11 – Justice

Hebrew Letter: Lamed (ל) – “Ox Goad” 🔱
- ל Lamed means *Ox Goad* — a staff used to direct the plow-ox.
- Symbol of guidance, discipline, and training toward higher purpose.
- A Simple Letter, Lamed governs Libra, the sign of balance, harmony, and law.

English Equivalent / Value: L = 30
- Twelfth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 30 = disciplined progress, learning, ascent.
- Lamed is the tallest letter, reaching upward, symbolizing aspiration toward truth.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Faithful Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that maintains order and balance.
- The power of equilibrium, trustworthiness, and faithful adherence to law.

Aspect of Consciousness: Balance / Law / Truth
- Faculty of motion — the steady rhythm of balanced action.

- Justice is equilibrium, the weighing of opposites, the corrective force of karma.
- Consciousness here aligns with truth, fairness, and cosmic order.

Astrology: Sign Libra ♎ — Sep 23–Oct 22 (Tishrei / Autumn Equinox)
- Libra = balance, fairness, justice, and harmony.
- Ruled by Venus ♀, emphasizing love, relationship, and unity through balance.
- Autumn Equinox = perfect equilibrium of light and darkness.

Polarity: Love ↔️ Hatred
- Love = harmony and balance through attraction.
- Hatred = imbalance and separation when law is denied.

Seasonal Associations:
- Autumn Equinox — time of weighing, adjustment, and realignment.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟢 Green
- Green = balance, growth, renewal, and truth.
- Symbolizes harmony and the middle path.

Musical Note: 🎵 F♯ / G♭
- Resonates with equilibrium, steady law, and harmony of opposites.

Path on the Tree: 22nd Path
- Connects Geburah (Severity) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Faithful Intelligence — path of balance between severity and beauty.
- The scales of equilibrium maintain cosmic harmony.

Cube of Space: Northwest Edge
- Lamed rules the Cube's northwest edge — the balance-point of law and truth.
- Represents the guiding staff aligning Spirit's movement with harmony.

Alchemy / Metal: Copper ⚙️ (Venus)
- Harmonizing, conductive, balancing.
- Symbolizes love and unity as the basis of equilibrium.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 11 L Lamed Justice Action

Aspect of Consciousness: The Law of Karma; Work; Action
The Law of Karma is the application of the Law of Cause and Effect through human action which brings about equilibrium and spiritual growth. The resulting equilibrium is not static. It is a dynamic equilibrium maintained by undeviating Cosmic Law in action. It is Superconsciousness which establishes the goals of the self, but it is the

operation of Cosmic Law which keeps us moving along the Path towards the goal. The Law of Karma manifests itself to us as Undeviating Justice - the Law of Dynamic Balance which is always acting. Justice is applying to the conduct of life the inspiration which comes to us from above and from within, reaping the results, and learning from the experience. You Act - You Sow - You Reap - You Learn - You Grow.

Hebrew Name: Lamed (Ox Goad, whip)
The letter Lamed is in the shape of a serpent, uncoiled and active. Lamed means "to teach, to instruct". It also means "Ox-Goad". Since the Ox represents Superconsciousness (K0), Lamed represents "that which urges and guides the manifestation of the cosmic power." Lamed stands for an "inward urge or drive, and an inward capacity for self-direction."

The special sense or function assigned to Lamed is Work, or Action. "This is also the basic meaning of the Sanskrit term Karma."

Letter L, or in Hebrew "Lamed," (pronounced law-med.) As a noun it means "ox-goad," and as a verb "to teach." Its form has the appearance of a serpent uncoiled, in action.

The numerical value of Lamed is 30. Whereas Key 10 showed grasp of Law, Key 11 shows application of the same law. The Emperor laid down this Law,
but Justice mediates it!

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Faithful Intelligence
To succeed in anything, we must have faith - confidence in our ability to achieve the desired outcome. This faith, however, is not blind. It is borne out of knowledge and the experiences of past sowing and reaping. Thus the "ripening of perception and interpretation" leads to faith, which becomes a motivation for action. You act because you have the faith that your desired outcome is achievable by the action.

Astrological Correspondence: Libra
Libra, the scales, is ruled by Venus (Key 3: Creative Imagination). This signifies that "our subconscious deductions from experience are the seeds of Karma and are actually the basis of all our activities." In other words, creative imagery invokes desire, which prompts us to action. Change the imaging, and one changes the Karma. Also, Saturn is exalted in Libra. This indicates that "the highest manifestation of the restrictive, concrete, definitive power of Saturn is brought about through the operation of [discriminating action.] Astrologers say that Librans love justice, order and harmony."

Astrological reference is to Libra, seventh sign of the zodiac, ruled by Venus, whose symbol is the balance.

Number: 11
The Power of one, acting through the agency of one. Self-consciousness acting

through self-consciousness. Balanced and active administration. Also, "balance, poise, exactitude, accuracy, impartiality, equity."

Key 11 shows two 1's, equal polarities in equilibrium. This is the middle number of the series from 0 to 21.

Color / Note: Green / F#

Path of Wisdom 22 is the Faithful Intelligence, wherein spiritual virtues are deposited and increased, until they pass to those dwelling under the shadow thereof. (In Hebrew, "AMN" means Faith.)

The Scene: A crowned woman is seated on a throne, holding an upright sword in one hand, and a balanced scale in the other.

The Woman: The same woman from key 3 and Key 8, The Empress (Venus). She wears a green cape (Venus) signifying creative imagination, a red robe (Mars) signifying action, and a blue undergarment signifying memory. The meaning is that Action and Imagination always go hand in hand, and that imagination is based on memory.

The Scales: The instrument used to weigh and measure action.

The Sword: In conjunction with the scales, symbolizes wisely directed (discriminating) Action.

The Curtain: Violet curtain conceals a yellow background symbolizing that the veils of mechanism (Violet-Jupiter-Wheel of Fortune) conceal from the uninitiated that the whole universe is permeated by the life-breath of spirit, symbolized by yellow.

The yellow background refers to Air (Libra), and to the Life Breath (the Ox of Aleph), partially concealed behind the "veil," the Jupiterian violet drapes.

Her Crown is a golden-edged triple-figure, resembling the letter Shin of Key 20, showing manifestation of exalted serpent power, and man's release from three dimensional interpretations.

Circle-and-Square emblem on front of crown, the idea carried over from Key 10, shows movement of Spirit within the field of form. Indigo T-square on front of dress indicates exaltation of Saturn in Libra. Saturn is the power of limitation working through Karma, to make possible the manifestation of form.

Hilt of sword repeats this symbol of the T-square, forged in the golden metal of the Sun. Enlightenment exalts form. The sword implies the element of Air, and activity cutting through obstruction to eliminate and' free from falseness. Again, the Word.

Its steel is the metal of Mars, complement of Venus, as the red color of her robe is also the color of Mars, energizing, among other things, the adrenalins which Venus rules.

Venus rules Libra, the sign of this Key, its green color adorning cape and crown.

Balance Pans of the scales are of gold to show that weighing and measuring are also manifestations of radiant solar energy.

Seven lines of equal length support the pans - these depicting seven aspects of the Life-Power. Libra is also the seventh sign of the zodiac.

Justice is established by accurate weighing and measurement of factors involved.

Though we do not escape results of past action, we may change them as we weigh and strike a balance, using the sword to eliminate error.

And WORK, for the function of this Key is work and action. This same Ox-goad is used in teaching, for "to teach" is another meaning of the word Lamed. One may teach through goading into right action or through arousing the desire to attain.

The Sanskrit work Karma literally means "deed." So, while you are reaping the fruit of yesterday's deeds, select and sow twice as many desirable ones for tomorrow, to strike the desirable balance and even go beyond toward epigenesis.

Karma is never fate, but action and the result of action. The fruit of inaction is loss of function. Not all action is physical.

> When St. Paul was en route to Damascus, Jesus called to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads."

Perfect Justice may manifest no likes nor dislikes, no partiality, lest it tip the scales of balance, and no more be Justice. Cosmic Law is just as impartial.

🎨 Key 11 – Justice: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟢 Emerald Green
- **Path:** 22nd Path – Geburah → Tiphareth (Lamed, ל – “Ox Goad”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟢 Emerald Green
- **Meaning:** Emerald green is the vibration of Libra, the Balance. It symbolizes harmony, equilibrium, and the guidance of action by truth and justice. The figure

of Justice sits within this verdant field, balancing the scales of karma in perfect proportion.

- **Symbolism:** Balance, truth, harmony, karmic law, equilibrium of Spirit and form.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Space between curtains in background.
- **Meaning:** Mental clarity illuminating the veil of judgment.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, clear truth guiding balance.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Hair.
- **Meaning:** Radiant vitality of solar force expressed in judgment.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, golden radiance, clarity of life-force.

🟢 Green – Venusian Harmony

- **Areas:** Crown (except emblem and border); cape over shoulders.
- **Meaning:** Growth and harmony protecting the seat of justice.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, fertility of truth, harmony of Spirit.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Sleeves (same blue as canopy in Key 7).
- **Meaning:** Reflection and subconscious waters guiding discernment.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, intuitive depth, subconscious wisdom.

🟣 Indigo – Spiritual Depths

- **Areas:** T on dress yoke.
- **Meaning:** Combination of blue, violet, and black; the hidden wisdom of inner sight.
- **Symbolism:** Mystery, higher perception, spiritual depth.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Curtains (except cords, tassels, fringe); oval around neck; veil connecting throne pillars (lighter violet).
- **Meaning:** Spiritual authority blending fiery red and limiting blue.
- **Symbolism:** Sovereignty, spiritual truth, higher wisdom veiling judgment.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Throne and dais.
- **Meaning:** Equilibrium of opposites as foundation of rulership.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, structural wisdom, stability of truth.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Balances; sword hilt; rings of drapery cords; crown outline.
- **Meaning:** Solar vitality empowering the tools of judgment.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, authority of truth.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Sword blade.
- **Meaning:** Discriminating intellect, sharpened to cut through illusion.
- **Symbolism:** Clarity, justice, disciplined will.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

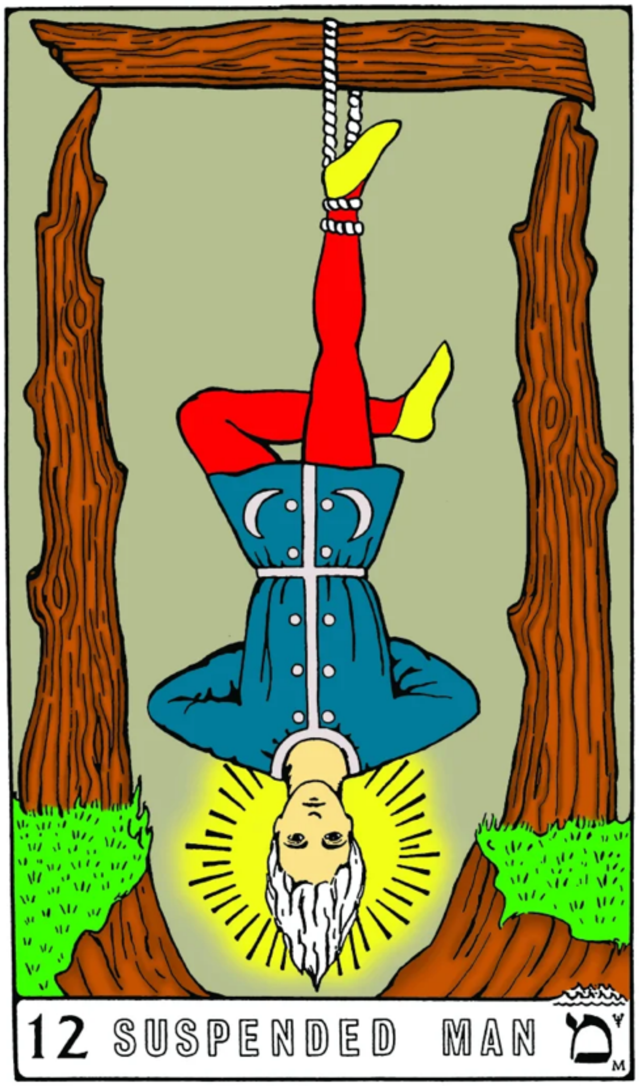
- **Areas:** Square on crown; shoe; chest panels beside T.
- **Meaning:** Purity and Spirit embodied in symbols of judgment.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, innocence, Spirit's clarity guiding action.

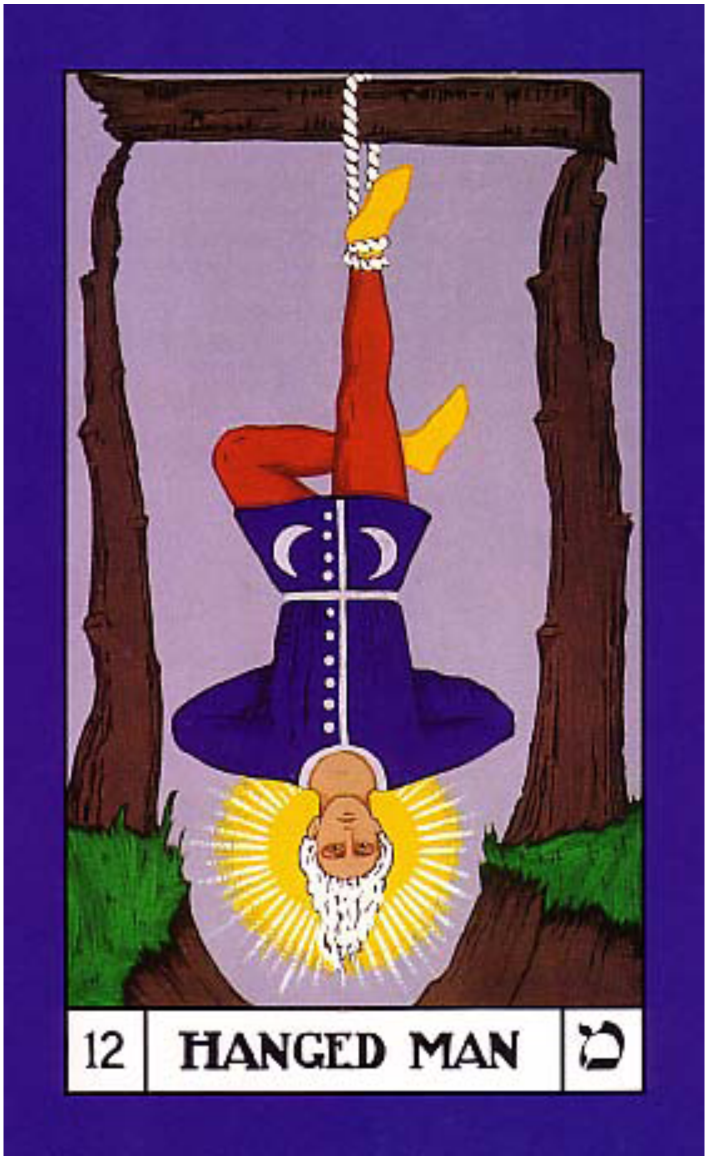
🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of truth and karmic balance.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, incarnate Spirit.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Robe (except cape and sleeves); cords, tassels, fringe of draperies; circle in crown emblem.
- **Meaning:** Active fire of Mars integrated into law and balance.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, energy, force disciplined by justice.


12
SUSPENDED MAN
מ
M


12
HANGED MAN
מ

Key 12
SUSPENDED MAN
(Formerly called Hanged Man)

Letter M Mem - Waters

He hath founded the earth upon the Seas and established it upon the floods. - Psalm 24

Mem, the Hebrew letter assigned to this Key, means "seas," or "waters," being the equivalent of our English letter M. In both alphabets, it is the thirteenth letter, but in Greek, as the twelfth letter, it is called *Mu*.

This picture does not represent a physical body as such, nor does it indicate pain or punishment, but rather, suspension of conscious activity, a reversal of consciousness and a sort of mystical isolation, and withdrawal from the world of sense and form.

The wise man realizes that his life does not depend upon material things, neither on people, places or possessions, but that his sole support is the Ultimate Reality of that Above - the invisible realm of Spirit where lies the First Cause at the heart of all things.

While God is not necessarily up by physical direction, He is there just as He is *within*; and the first concept of God and of spiritual elevation is thought of as above. Truly He does dwell above the level whereon humanity dwells - not in place, but in upliftment and consciousness. Until one learns to find God *within* himself and all things or beings, he can only look up.

So, his first deliberate act in changing from the old man to the new is to literally up-end his consciousness from the old way. He must drastically change his ways of thinking and acting until the Truth becomes ingrained within him. He must give up thinking of the earth as his support and walk on the floors of heaven. Until he gets there in consciousness, he can only reach it from below. Once there, he can again right himself as the Dancer of Key 21, who has overcome limitation and attained to a higher state.

The Path of Mem on the Tree of Life is called the Path of Stable Intelligence. The stability comes with removing our feet from a terrestrial platform and placing them solidly on the foundation of Spiritual Reality, then letting God take care of the rest. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and all these things shall be added unto you."

When we really give up, we depend on Him alone Who is both our Source and Destination. The only bond of contact is shown here as the white rope which holds one suspended above the earth. The twisted cord symbolizes the spiraling Force of the radiant White Light of Spirit.

A *quotation* from Zen teachings:

The branches of a tree are shaken by the storm; but the trunk remains unmoved. In like manner, as the Mind of the arhat is bound to the firm pillar of samadhi by the cord of the four paths, it remains unmoved - even when the body is suffering pain.

The gallows somewhat suggest pillars, but are shaped like the letter Tav, the final letter of the Hebrew alphabet, which symbolizes the complete attainment. Thus, he has chosen to limit himself within whatever restrictions of discipline may be needed to accomplish this attainment. He has voluntarily bound himself to his goal.

The trees are of living wood - rooted in the ground. The branches have been lopped off, six on either side, to denote trimming away the surface appearance of personality to get down to basics (the twelve personalities resulting from the twelve signs of the zodiac are only superficial differences).

The earth has been hollowed out beneath his head to make room for the Illumination to take place. Some of the "world" has been given up. With the mental processes taking place below ground, or below the level of consciousness, this depicts a subconscious process. The green growth, the work of imagination, is shown at either side.

His head is placed at the same level as the tree roots to show that basic growth patterns are being changed at the Source, and new Light forming at the very life-roots of his being. His earthly foundation is being spiritualized.

This could not happen until the old sediment had been released from heart and mind; but once the Light is turned on, all darkness must flee henceforth as when Light is turned on in a room.

In such a reversed pattern, all the sediment of former ways would sink to the head in this lowly position. The battle with darkness here would be a mental one, and his cleansing is of the mind, both conscious and subconscious.

Having given up former pathways, his yellow-shod feet are turned upwards toward the Sun; yellow indicating the Path of Intellect has carried him here.

The previous Key, Justice, took him through a process where debts were paid, where the scales were evened up and the Books of Life balanced. He need not wait for life to knock the props out from under him before he accepts that there is no other Way than the Divine One. He is learning to accept the only true Support so that he will not be at the mercy of circumstance. The heavenly Support cannot be taken km any man.

In turning from the old ways, whether within or without, there is a complete reversal of thought and habit patterns, which must be set with care and deliberation. These may seem unnatural at first, even to the individual, but the ways of the Wise always look upside-down to the flesh-blinded eyes of the material minded.

One is at first conscious of this reversal as though looking at his own reflection in a pool of water where he can see himself mirrored in an upside-down position. This, again, is a prevision of Key 21, whose final perfection is now seen "as in a glass darkly," the number 12 itself being a reversal of the number 21.

A person in this position would find his pockets emptied out of all memories, trends, and thoughts of yore. He would both literally and figuratively straighten out his affairs, clear up any loose ends and tell old comrades “Good-bye," as though preparing his last Will and Testament - which he is - by giving up his personal will to the Will of God.

Like Moses, he then walks out into the "sea," where the waters of consciousness part to let him pass, and again close in behind him, while the weapons of "this world" hurled after him avail naught. In another age Jesus, too, entered the waters of Jordan and took up His mission from which there was no turning back. Purification is suggested in this Key by the inversion of things natural or earthly.

I The letter of this Key, Mem, means "water," and is called one of the three Mother letters of the Hebrew alphabet, referring to the three elements which combine to constitute Earth. These three are Mem-water; Aleph-air, and Shin-fire. The result is shown by Tav - earth perfected, and the Great Work of Alchemy completed.

Water, on the esoteric level, refers to the stream of consciousness, the ever flowing "mind-stuff.” Yoga teaches that "When the lake of mind-stuff is perfectly clear, it minors the Light of the Spiritual Sun."

When this continual vibrational flow is restrained, through coming under intelligent direction, it becomes quiet and intense. This ocean of subconscious mentality reflects the personal existence. It is called "water" because it resembles that element with its flowing currents, moving and swirling.

This Astral Fluid is composed of the droplets of energy which are the primary substance of all things, and which take form through the activity of Mind. When all the droplets are culminated together in one place and the earth becomes flooded, a Baraqa, or Ship of Wisdom, must be built to carry man back across the waters to God, his Source.

In a sense, this Key also represents the Deluge as in the time of Noah, when all the old evils and impurities of the world were washed away by floods of water that man might begin anew with only the choicest of all things saved out as "seed" for the new. The spiritualized being places in the ark (the Baraqa) of his own bodily temple just the essence of all that was good of himself and lets the rest wash away unresisting.

Neptune, the significator of this Key, verifies its association with water. He was called ruler of the deep, or mystic god of the sea. As a planet, it is related to mysticism as well as to sleep and silence.

Neptune, ruling the Deep of the collective subconscious, is also, ruler of Pisces, sign of the fishes, and twelfth sign of the zodiac whereunto all the others have poured their influences.

The stillness of is not that of idleness. One in motionless meditation may be participating in vital work. In such a state, darkness is extinguished by Light as one goes beyond thought to vision and direct perception.

This experience is Neptunian in nature. Once having direct spiritual experience, one finds it difficult to return to any former pattern of living while knowing that there is more. His former concepts are now reversed to the opposite of those manifested by ordinary mortals.

Jesus taught in the Piscean Age. His first disciples were fishermen. He had twelve Apostles, who are also called in the Book of Revelations the Twelve Foundations upon which rest the Holy City, or New Jerusalem.

The number 12 combines 1 with 2 - positive with negative, even as the net of the fisherman is composed of crisscross lines, or positive intersecting negative.

Twelve is the total number of lines of any cube and has been called "the most solid number," being the "foundation of our spiritual and temporal happiness." It is the number of divisions of the heavens into signs of the zodiac and of the twelve tribes which are called "Gates of the City."

The shape of the Suspended Man suggests a 4 placed above a 3 (the legs above the triangular position of the arms). Three times four equals twelve - the number of this Key.

The red color suggests energetic activity which has here been stilled from running. The four also refers to Key 4 and Reason. The logic which once supported and carried him along has temporarily been restrained - the worldly logic of The Emperor reversed. Red color refers to fire, blue to water.

The suggestion of Peter would appear to indicate that the church, being the body of Christ, is shown as negative to the positive aspect of Christ, or Spirit.

The buttons and jacket edging are of the lunar metal silver, with water-affinity. The silver cross shows crucifixion of the negative elements within the being. Ten buttons refer to the ten spheres on the Tree of Life.

A student under spiritual training and discipline can hope for no Illumination until the old dross is drained out and washed away. The less he resists, the faster it happens. Underneath all this, a Light begins to grow.

The white hair indicates an "old soul," though in a young body. This One is ready for the final spiritual work, having passed through many lifetimes and having become an "Ancient of Days." He is old and young at the same time; the Absolute Cosmic Consciousness being reflected into the area of personal awareness.

Key 12
SUSPENDED MAN
(Formerly called Hanged Man)

Mother Letter: Key 12 M Mem Reversal Water

This Key is full of meaning for an occultist. Its primary meaning is Reversal. This refers to the reversal of thought, of point of view held by those who know from that held by the unenlightened multitude. The adept realizes that his existence is dependent upon *Cosmic Law*. Another meaning of the card is *Suspended Mind*, which the Hindus name Samadhi, in which exalted mental state the aspirant reaches the Divine Consciousness of Pure Being. The letter Mem means Water or seas and refers to *Root Matter* as do the crescents and upper garment. (See Key 2.)

The gallows are in the shape of the letter Tau (Key 21). Its twelve lopped branches are the twelve signs of the zodiac. The edging of the jacket, with the belt, form a cross and circle, symbolical of positive and negative modes of life-expression. The white hair and the halo about the head suggest that the Hanged Man is the embodiment of the ONE LIGHT. The entire figure represents a pendulum at rest. He is unmoved and immovable, because he realizes that no person ever thinks, moves or acts of himself, but simply expresses the thought, motion and action of the ONE IDENTITY.

Key 12 – The Hanged Man

Hebrew Letter: Mem (מ) – “Water” 💧
- מ Mem means *Water* — symbol of the Great Sea, the womb of life, and the substance of all form.
- Represents reflection, suspension, and surrender to the flow of the subconscious.
- As a Mother Letter, Mem corresponds to the primal element of Water.

English Equivalent / Value: M = 40
- Thirteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 40 = gestation, transition, cycles of purification.
- Mem as water = the medium of change, baptism, and hidden depth.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Stable Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that establishes stability and continuity.
- The Great Sea as the eternal foundation in which forms are suspended.

Aspect of Consciousness: Reflection / Subconscious Suspension
- Faculty of surrender, yielding, and trust.
- The Hanged Man symbolizes reversal of perspective, acceptance, and sacrifice of the lesser for the greater.
- Consciousness of reflection — seeing reality in inverted clarity.

Astrology: Element Water 💧
- Mem represents primal Water — fluidity, adaptability, and the subconscious matrix.
- The tides of the Moon, the depths of the sea, the baptism of renewal.

Polarity: Stability ↔️ Change
- Stability = enduring foundation of life in the waters of Spirit.
- Change = adaptability and transformation through surrender.

Seasonal Associations:
- Winter Solstice ❄️ — deep stillness, inward turning, hidden life beneath.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵 Blue
- Blue = depth, peace, and the truth of subconscious reflection.
- The ocean of mind — vast, silent, and enduring.

Musical Note: 🎵 G♯ / A♭
- Resonates with dreamlike reflection, fluid adaptability, and inner stillness.

Path on the Tree: 23rd Path
- Connects Geburah (Severity) → Hod (Splendor).
- Called the Stable Intelligence — the hidden current supporting the structure of form.
- Path of reflection and sacrifice bringing stability out of surrender.

Cube of Space: Interior Axis — East ↔️ West
- Mem rules the interior horizontal axis of the Cube.
- Represents the Great Sea flowing within, binding east to west.
- Axis of subconscious depth underlying all movement of the Cube.

Alchemy / Metal: Silver ⚪
- Lunar metal — reflective, pure, fluid, receptive.
- Associated with psychic receptivity, cycles, and the waters of transformation.

Attributions:

Aspect of Consciousness: Reversal
The Law of Reversal / Surrender: The suspension of personal mental activity through the use of concentration. The stilling or suspension of the mind so that one can turn within and receive knowledge. The meditative state of mind known as Samadhi. This meditative state is a result of the ability to hold one's mind in a state of suspension by using the powers of self-consciousness to still the creative image making aspect of subconsciousness. However, this cannot be safely done until one has established a strong and stable personality, lest it be swept away by the strong currents of the lower subconscious.

As a result, the person in this state knows that he/she is always supported by the ONE, and he/she thus also knows the real meaning of Security and Freedom. The lesson of the Law of Reversal is that we must REVERSE in every way we can, our whole attitude towards what it is that gives us security and what it is in us that is really free. The silent, calm reversal of one's own way of life, combined with perfect tolerance of the ways of other people. The reversal is a reversal of thought; a reversal in point-of-view.

Hebrew Name: Mem (water)
Mem is one of the three primary Hebrew "Mother" letters and means "water" or "seas." Water "is the first mirror. Water reflects images upside down." "The waters of the letter Mem are none other than the waters of consciousness- the Primal Substance of Being without beginning or end."

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Stable Intelligence
The only support able to provide us with any real stability is reliance upon God (Thy Will, not my will). In addition: " Until we are stable in our individuality, we cannot really give ourselves over with safety to that 'mute, dark mirror of substance,' the waters of the Primal Substance. To do so prematurely would be to risk having our consciousness overcome by the waters of the mass mind-that level in the ocean of consciousness wherein dwells the Vital Soul of all humanity, but no self-conscious individuality."

Letter M in Hebrew "Mem" translates as "seas" or "water." It suggests Silence, and is one of the three Mother letters, the Element Water in its original state. In chemical processes, water acts as a catalyst to hold particles in suspension.

As a number, Mem is equivalent to 40.

Astrological Correspondence: Neptune
Named after the Roman god of the sea, Neptune is the planet of mystery and illusion - of things hidden in the watery depths. When we are stabilized in our individuality, then reversing and suspending the mind results in "mystical revelations and creative inspirations."

Astrological association is Neptune, ruler of the deep.

> "The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the floods." His Path is correctly named Stable Intelligence, for the stable foundation of his life is the invisible realm of Spirit.

Number: 12
The power of 2 (subconsciousness) acting through the agency of 1 (self-consciousness). This suggests that the powers of subconsciousness are operating through the self-conscious mind's power of focus and attention.

Key 12. A number of completeness, as the 12 disciples, and 12 signs of the zodiac. Reversed, 12 becomes 21, number of the last Key.

Path of Wisdom 23 is called the Stable Intelligence, "the source of consistence, or power of permanence, in all the numerations."

Color / Note: Blue / G#

As the Water of Life, Mem represents the womb of all being.

The Scene: A man hangs up side down suspended from a tree. He is symbolic of the "Suspended Mind." "The Hanged Man can still the waters safely because his focus is intent upon the Central Self."[6]

The Man: He is in calm repose. The hanged one, like Christ is a role model for us to follow, as he or she willingly and lovingly submits to doing the work of his or her divine parents here on earth, despite the fact that it will entail sacrifice. His legs form a figure 4 (Reason) and they are above his hands and shoulders which form a triangle (3-Imagination). The meaning here is that in order to suspend the mind over the roar of the storms of everyday life we must make full use of the power of reason and subordinate the imagination.

The Tree: The man hangs from a tree in the form of the Hebrew letter Tav (The Cosmic Life). He hangs from and is dependent upon the Source of life from above. The hanged man is completely stable and secure because he does not rely on externals; he is completely and totally dependent on God.

The hanged man sees beneath the surface of situations and people.

Gray background shows the blending of opposites, of Spirit and Matter, wisely. Having done this, he has arrived at a complete reversal of mind and action.

"Gallows" is shaped like the letter Tav of Key 21 (the Administrative Intelligence), which directs the forces of the universe. Six branches lopped from each side intimate the twelve signs of the zodiac, or twelve aspects of personality. The living wood shows Cosmic life. Through self-limitation on a lower level, one gains freedom of the greater -- to achieve the "Dance of Life" realized in Key 21.

This Key in no way refers to hanging or suspension in the physical sense, but to an about face in deed and thought.

Limitation brings concentration and specialization. Prolonging of specialization at the spiritual level helps one toward Samadhi, in which most bodily functions are suspended, when consciousness and health of the being, both inner and outer, are in balance with Reality.

Law of Reversal: By this law, one reverses misery, failure, and their like, to substitute their opposites of health and happiness -- not alone by thinking, but by application of principles.

White rope symbolizes the means of suspension, by twisted spirals of Universal Energy, the Pure White Light.

Yellow shoes: One arrives at correct understanding through exercise of the Intellect.

Red hose: His running action and reason (originating in Key 4) are stilled by this reversal. Red symbolizes the fire element.

Blue jacket: Water element. Mind-substance stemming from Key 2.

Silver buttons, cross, and crescents refer also to Key 2, showing the reflective quality of the moon metal, and the element water, the first mirror of Nature, which reflects things The pockets are containers of powers. The 10 buttons are in number as the Spheres on the Tree of Life.

White hair indicates identity with the Ancient of Days. Glory around head, illumination, shows him as embodiment of the One Light.

Yoga saying: "When the Water of Mind-Stuff is perfectly clear, it mirrors the Light of the Spiritual Sun."

His vision and brain are active below the surface or ground level, where a place is hollowed-out for the mind-stuff, or "water."

The Sanskrit word "mana" is a word-root for "man," and the thinking mind.

> HE DEPENDS NOT ON THE EARTH BELOW I
> HIM, BUT ON THAT WHICH IS ABOVE.

🎨 Key 12 – The Hanged Man: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔵 Blue
- **Path:** 23rd Path – Geburah → Hod (Mem, מ – “Water”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔵 Blue
- **Meaning:** Blue is the pure vibration of Mem, one of the three Mother Letters, corresponding to Water. It symbolizes reflection, memory, receptivity, and the great sea of subconscious life. The Hanged Man, inverted in suspension, is immersed in this current of spiritual reversal and inner baptism.
- **Symbolism:** Reversal of perception, surrender, initiation through Water, reflection of Spirit in matter.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Slippers/shoes; halo around head.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity shining as enlightenment in suspension.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, halo of divine wisdom.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Coat (except ornaments); shade same as canopy in Key 7.
- **Meaning:** Flowing subconscious depth, robe of immersion in Water.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, subconscious current of Spirit.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Grass.
- **Meaning:** Fertility and natural vitality at the ground of experience.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, harmony, organic foundation of life.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Tree trunks; slopes of earth.
- **Meaning:** Stability of Earth supporting the scene of initiation.
- **Symbolism:** Grounding, stability, earthy balance.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Background.

- **Meaning:** Neutral field of equilibrium, the veil of suspended perception.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, concealed wisdom, mystery of reversal.

⚪ Silver – Lunar Reflection

- **Areas:** Belt, buttons, pockets, jacket edging.
- **Meaning:** Receptivity and reflective lunar qualities trimming the garment of initiation.
- **Symbolism:** Intuition, reflection, lunar currents balancing solar will.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

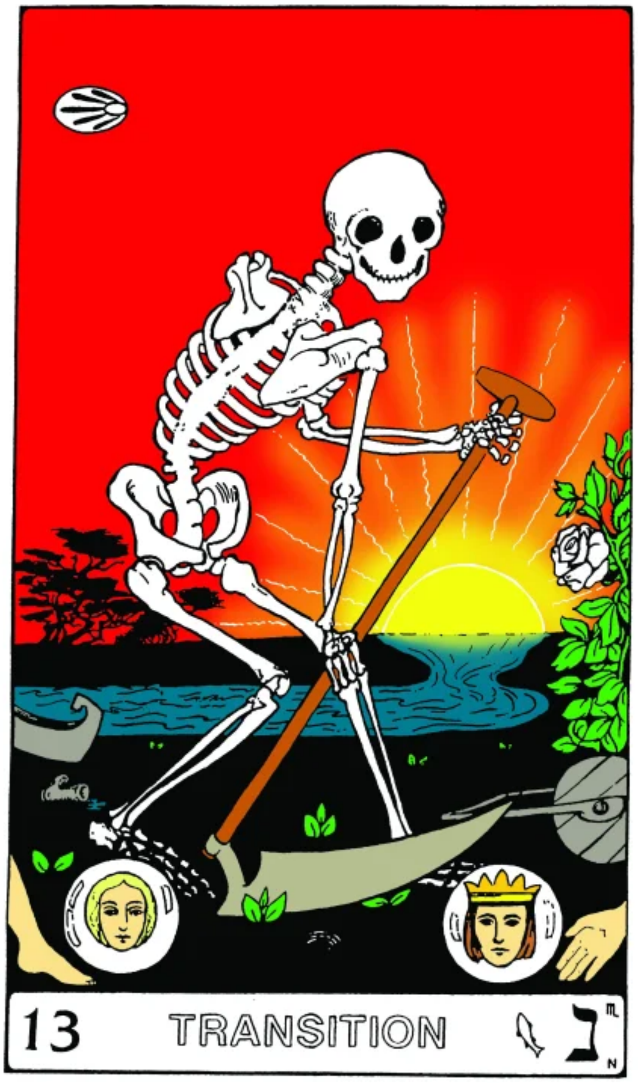
- **Areas:** Hair, rope.
- **Meaning:** Innocence and Spirit's unconditioned Light. The rope as bond of Spirit, not constraint.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, spiritual unity, innocence in sacrifice.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as the vessel of this inversion and initiation.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit incarnate in humanity, universal vessel of wisdom.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Hose.
- **Meaning:** Fiery vitality clothed in inversion, desire transmuted through surrender.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, life-force, energy redirected toward Spirit.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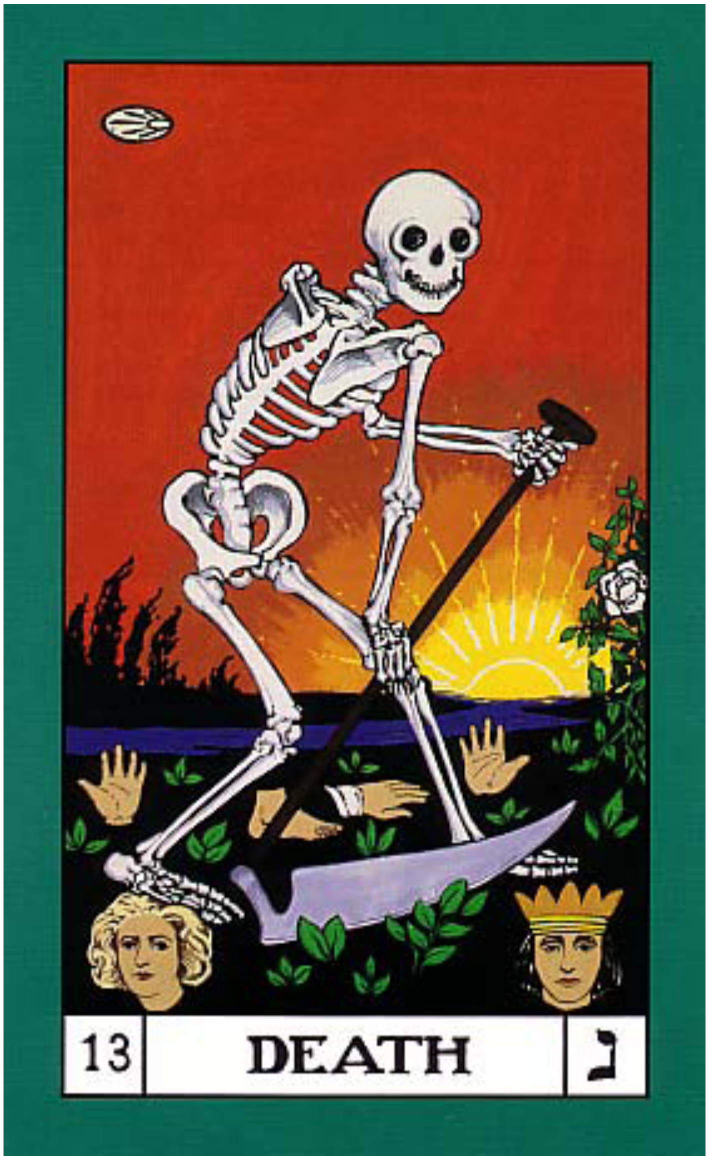
13
DEATH
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Key 13
TRANSITION / DEATH
(Formerly called Death)

Letter N Nun - Fish

Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of Life. - Revelation 2: 10

The Hebrew letter Nun, when used as a noun, means "fish," but as a verb, it indicates "to sprout" or "to grow." Fishes are symbolic, both of prolific growth and reproductive power.

The glyph of a fish was used by early Christians, who drew one in the sand with a stick to identify themselves when encountering strangers whom they thought to be fellow travelers, in days when Christianity was forced to go underground for preservation.

The natural habitat of fish is water - the element just discussed in the previous Key of Mem. So, Nun represents the essence of life which is drawn from the waters - the first creatures of conscious life which had the capacity for motion.

The fish has many symbolic meanings, among which are the progress of the world across the primordial waters of unformed realities, or of worlds dissolved and not as yet refashioned. The function of this Key is called Locomotion and Change. It depicts physical change being achieved through motion.

The fish must be raised out of the water in order to make use of its powers. In alchemical symbolism, as in life, this can only be done with the use of a fishhook. In the Hebrew alphabet, the letter Tzaddi of Key 17 means "fishhook." Its function is meditation, and logically, meditation is the tool used to catch the spiritual powers symbolized by the mysterious Fish.

This brings about subtle changes within the person by raising up the power of the self-destroying scorpion through the life-and-death stages of the serpent-power of male energy. It progresses on up to the exaltation of the eagle with fully liberated power. All of these things are emblems of Scorpio.

The sign correlating with this Key of Nun is the water sign Scorpio, which is described as relating to death or transition, inheritance, sex, occult practice and regeneration.

All of these things, if you consider them closely, take man "one step beyond" the norm - carrying life forward into a different realm. There is no turning back once you have I crossed fully into a state of change or transformation.

It is somewhat like opening a door into another world, or passing through a dark tunnel towards an open end. The door looks mysterious, even fearful, from the earthly side. This is only true because you have never seen past it; the fear of death is mainly fear of the unknown.

Transition is basically change, the act or state of passing from one place, condition or action to another, transformation from one state to another. All matter changes, its material components being liberated into the elements to recombine in other forms. Nothing is ever lost. The Soul-essence does not change except as it evolves, but is liberated from its encasement in a physical shell in order to permit experience of life on higher planes and to digest what was learned here - to rest before again returning in another form.

The symbols of this Key point to a place between the visible and invisible realms, making it like a passageway through which influences act and reacts between the two worlds. Occultism is a study of the unknown, the inner wisdom which is revealed only to those who open that secret door and pass within.

Regeneration is a state of transformation, the spiritual generation which brings about liberation from death through giving life-consciousness to the eternal, spiritual vehicle.

Scorpio is a fixed water sign ruled by Pluto, Lord of the Underworld, and co-ruled by Mars, the fiery god of action. The Mars force is activated in Scorpio, and the red background here implicates both Mars and the element of fire, which it brings to bear.

After the flood which covered the earth in Noah's time had washed away the world's iniquity and impurities, the sun shone hotly to evaporate the waters and dry the land, and the ark landed. Here we see what was left following from the destruction of the "world" by water in symbolic form but relating to the development of an individual. After the flood, only a "skeleton crew" remained - Noah and his family, and pairs of creatures for a nucleus from which to reseed and replenish the earth.

In an old Egyptian myth, there was said to be an inert waste of waters called Nun, and these waters were stirred to activity by the movement of Amun, God of wind and air (or spirit) over it. This sounds like the Biblical story of creation, or re-creation.

The desire nature has been purified by these drastic experiences, as shown by the white rose (also an emblem of Uranus which is exalted in Scorpio). The Fool passed through this same level of vibration on his way back into incarnation before re-entering the earthly atmosphere, and here plucked his white rose.

The placement of this Key on the Tree of Life between Netzach, Victory, and Tiphareth, Beauty (or the Sun), indicates this stage as the spiritualization of the desire nature with the Christ-force flowing through.

When the reversal of consciousness begun in the previous Key has fully taken place, one literally dies to the old life, and for a while is like unleavened bread - all the earthly flesh (symbolically) dissolved from his bones. Let us note that yeast leavens bread through a process of fermentation of the dough, causing the production of alcohol and carbon dioxide, also breaking down the organic substances.

The skeleton is completely reversed in the middle portion, being twisted at pelvis and neck so that the backbone is in front. This would be physically impossible but indicates here a deliberate reversal of the forces of Mars, the so-called "libido" of the psychologist, as well as a change of direction from North to South, or from darkness to Light.

The dynamic Mars force is redirected by this twist of the skeleton, and this fully disintegrates the former false mental structure. The same twist is seen in the river, the stream of consciousness being diverted from its original direction and turned toward the Sun.

The rising sun in the eastern background refers to Tiphareth, the sixth sphere on the Tree of Life. What outwardly appears as death is but moving into the sunrise of a new day; when yesterday passes, tomorrow is born. Yet he is walking more nearly southward, away from the dark of ignorance and the unknown, toward the dawn of higher consciousness and enlightenment.

Just as the skeleton is the basis and framework of the body, essential to all physical motion, so Transition has been called "the framework of existence." Evolution can only occur if there is change, with elimination of the outworn. To hold onto outmoded things and ways of life is to cause impaction and constipation of life and affairs. In biology, Scorpio also refers to the area of elimination. Good health depends upon this function. This does not mean willful disruption of lives and affairs, but letting go of that which has really passed its usefulness.

When you walk over the desolation caused by the outgrown and decaying past, mourn it not. You have garnered already your seed for another sowing, and the chaff can either fertilize next year's field or serve to fire a furnace.

> His winnowing fork is in His Hand, and He will clear His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the granary; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire. - Matthew 3:12.

Chaff is but the outer covering of the grain and has finished its mission when the grain is gathered. Remember that within yourself you carry the seed of your own future. It is the living nucleus which gives you authority over a new life after the ash of the past is gone. It is the Holy of Holies, and you do "take it with you" through all movement and change - even through transition.

"He who loseth his life shall find it." We must let go. The miracles of transformation depend upon this.

Putrefaction is the actual alchemical stage which correlates with this Key. An old alchemical treatise stated: "Unless your matter putrefies, it may in no wise be truly altered, nor may your elements be divided kindly."

In Key 13, the seed is depicted by the double-oval in the upper left corner. This is a symbol showing the process of manifestation. The five rays extending from the inner oval represent the four elements, h, air, earth, and water, plus the fifth essence called "ether," or akasha.

The seed of Scorpio is the cell separated from the parent body while containing within itself all of the inherent parental characteristics.

The scythe is a tool traditionally carried by the grim reaper. It is shown with a blade of steel, the metal of Mars, with a T-shaped handle suggesting Tav, the letter of Saturn and of the end of Time.

Transition marks the time of harvesting the fruits of life. In the autumn of the year, when frost comes to lay waste the fields, a farmer goes out to cut down what remains of his crop. He harvests the fits and saves out from them the very best of the seed to plant for the coming year. Thus, release of the plant is not the end of life itself.

Consciousness is not destroyed. Neither does the consciousness of any person die. It merely moves on to another environment, relieved of its heavy earth-vehicle. It is he, and can later choose a new vehicle as one would choose an automobile.

The earth in this Key looks black, referring to the vast Unknown, or the return of vegetation to its state of primal Matter. It appears that new seedlings are already sprouting and taking root in the fertile ground for next year's crop in the black silt remaining after the flood water has left its rich sediment and is drained away.

The heads of the king and queen represent the Supernals, Wisdom and Understanding, the Abstract male and female Principles of Creation on the Tree of Life. The wheel replaces hands of older version to show progress possible in new activities.

The emptied boot shows an empty shell as all that remains of the passing Piscean age. Pisces physically rules the feet.

The number 13 has long been called unlucky. This is usually said to be because of Jesus and the twelve apostles. But more basically in the science of numbers, 12 is a complete rounded number - 3 times 4 - but to go beyond is to wander into strange realms. To one who cannot see beyond the physical, death appears as a fearful enemy.

Read all of I Corinthians 15. St. Paul gives a description of transition and resurrection. He said: "We shall not all die, but we shall all be changed. . ." We must change our own thinking to change our lives.

The Path of this Key is called The Imaginative Intelligence. By changing one's basic ideas, he forms new patterns of life and the old ones "die." Right use of the imaginative faculties will set in motion the subtle action which impels from within the upward rather than downward movement of the Mars force.

Life is a continuous process of change, or transformation from lower to higher stages of being and manifestation. Behind the outer mask of death is taking place the whole ascent of life in Spirit.

Sometimes the bones in this Key are colored pink to denote livingness. Remember, the reference here is not to bodily death, nor physical destruction. The "secret" is shown only to the pure in heart. Outer death cannot compare with the mystical death which takes place while the body still lives, and which consists in a total change of consciousness from that of mortality to immortality. This is a very real (but not a common) thing which happens to those on the Divine Path.

Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, Shua meaning "to be freed," and Joshua, or Y'shua, meaning salvation, aid, deliverance." Joshua was the son of Nun, "the fish," the letter of this Key. Then "Liberation, the Son of Fish," suggests that the power of Truth, which frees the individual, correlates with coming down to the bare basics of Creation - the growth-to-come implied.

As Mem represents waters, Nun represents the life beneath those waters which we seek to draw out in order that we may partake of the fruits of spirit.

Key 13
TRANSITION / DEATH
(Formerly called Death)

Behind the fearsome and forbidding aspect of this Key lies a world of inspired meaning. In the first place, the scene is not sunset, as you might suppose, but *sunrise*. The card does not represent the end, but the *real* meaning of Death, which is change, motion, transformation. Death is but the gateway to a larger life in reality. It is the power represented by this Key that transforms our consciousness and releases it from the trammels and limitations that now hamper its free expression. The significance of this Key is profound, when you realize that all of our knowledge of Life rests upon its continual motion and change, disintegration for the *release of energy*.

The skeleton is the conventional figure of Death. His scythe is of steel, referring to the planet Mars. It is crescent shaped, indicating a relation between this card and Key 2. The handle is shaped like a letter T which stands for Tau. The three hands, two active and one passive, represent works. The severed foot refers to the end of the Piscean age, as the rising sun does to the beginning of the Aquarian age. The man's head symbolizes wisdom, and the woman's, understanding. The white rose is the same as that carried by the Fool in Key 0.

Key 13 – Death

Hebrew Letter: Nun (נ) – "Fish" 🐟
- נ Nun means *Fish* — dwelling in the sea of life, symbol of motion, fertility, and continuity of generations.
- Represents transformation, the mystery of life through death, and the renewal of form.
- A Simple Letter, Nun governs Scorpio, the sign of intensity, death, and rebirth.

English Equivalent / Value: N = 50
- Fourteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 50 = liberation, renewal, release from bondage.
- Nun as fish = life concealed in the waters, swimming through cycles of death and rebirth.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Imaginative Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that gives likeness to all created things.
- Symbolizes the power of transformation, renewing life through death's doorway.

Aspect of Consciousness: Transformation / Reproduction / Renewal
- Faculty of generation and reproduction.
- Death signifies the shedding of the old so new life may arise.
- Consciousness of perpetual change: endings as beginnings.

Astrology: Sign Scorpio ♏ — Oct 23–Nov 21 (Cheshvan / Mid-Autumn)
- Scorpio = intensity, depth, transformation, mystery, regeneration.
- Ruled by Mars ♂ (traditional) and Pluto ♇ (modern) — powers of destruction and rebirth.
- Represents initiation into the mysteries of mortality and immortality.

Polarity: Generation ↔️ Corruption
- Generation = renewal of life through transformation.
- Corruption = decay when change is resisted or distorted.

Seasonal Associations:
- Mid-Autumn — descent into death, leaves falling, hidden renewal beneath decay.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟢🔵 Green-Blue
- Green-Blue = deep waters of renewal and transformation.
- Color of transition, healing, and regeneration.

Musical Note: 🎵 G
- Resonates with depth, intensity, and transformative change.

Path on the Tree: 24th Path
- Connects Netzach (Victory) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Imaginative Intelligence — power of images and transformation.
- Through death, life assumes new forms of beauty and meaning.

Cube of Space: Southwest Edge
- Nun rules the Cube’s southwest edge — descent toward transformation.
- Represents the edge of passage, the movement through death into renewal.

Alchemy / Metal: Iron ⛓ (Mars)
- Forceful, enduring, transformative through fire and struggle.
- In alchemy, Scorpio also linked to putrefaction — necessary decay before regeneration.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 13 N Nun Transition Motion

Aspect of Consciousness: Transformation
The Law of Dissolution & Transformation: Death is not the cessation of life. We are all immortal. Death is merely the dissolution of old outworn forms to release the energy of life so that it can take on new forms. The continuous flow of life from one form to another, is transformation. Furthermore, the essence of transformation requires that older, unfulfilling and un-constructive forms, be they bodily, mental, or emotional, must cease to be if there is to be new life, new ideas, or new advancements.

Hebrew Name: Nun (fish)
Nun means "fish". As a verb it means "to sprout, to grow", and conveys the ideas of "fertility, fecundity, productiveness, generative power, [...] origin, source, mainspring, groundwork, [and] leaven.” Life springs forth abundantly as it transforms itself from the old to the new. This transformation only seems like a "death", when one is attached or focused in the past or on the old outworn form.

The sense or function of Motion is attributed to Nun. "All motion is change, transformation, modification, variation. [...] Change is the basis of manifestation."

Letter N, in Hebrew "Nun" translates as "fish" when used as a noun; and when used as a verb: "to sprout," or to "propagate," a prolific symbol.

Joshua (meaning "God liberates") was the son of NUN ("fish"), title of this Key, the only Nun mentioned in the Bible. Joshua is a version of the same name as Jesus, with the same meaning. (J H Sh V H).

Numerical value of Nun is 50.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Imaginative Intelligence
All transformation and change is the result of changes in mental imagery (creative imagination). "It is not our imagination to which this path refers, but how we use that imagination."

Astrological Correspondence: Scorpio
"Scorpio governs the sex organs and is therefore closely associated with reproduction." Astrologically, Scorpio is the ruler of the House of Death and Inheritance in an astrological chart. "In Scorpio, then we have two apparently opposite concepts, death and reproduction, or birth. This is a hint [...] that death and birth are essentially aspects of one process - Life."

Astrological attribution is Scorpio, ruled by Pluto, with Uranus exalted. Fixed water sign ruling death, generation, and inheritance.

Number: 13
The Power of 3 (Desire / Creative Imagination) operating through the agency of 1 (Self-Consciousness). Love (3) in action (1) results in reproduction, growth, transformation and change.

Number of Key, 13. What seems as the "unluck" of 13 is only apparent, for all progress necessitates change and transformation.

Path of Wisdom 24: called the Imaginative Intelligence, or the "ground of similarity in the likeness of beings created after its aspects."

Paul said, "We shall not all die, but we shall all be changed in a flash."

Color / Note: Blue-Green / G

The Scene: A skeleton on a pale horse culls the dead as a new day dawns on the horizon. "The forces of change which result in physical death are inimical only because we misunderstand and fear them."

The Skeleton: A symbol of death. It is also the basis for all movement in the human body. Similarly, change or transformation is the framework which supports all phenomenal experience.

The Man & Woman: They fall before the Dissolving power of the Life-Power. Dissolution is a time to reap Understanding (the woman) and Wisdom (the Man) from our experience.

The River: The river of consciousness and of evolution. It flows towards the East to indicate that the entire movement of consciousness is towards the dawn or rising of life ...not the cessation of life.

The Sun: Rising in the East to indicate the dawn of a new day. ..the beginning of new life.

The Child with Flowers: The seeds of life walk hand in hand with Death. What we call death is really transformation and change ...a continuance of life in another, newer form.

The Pope: Symbolizing the end of the Piscean Age.

White Rose: The purified desire of spiritual imagery. "Evolution is carried forth by desire. The basic desire in all life is to reproduce forms which will perpetuate evolution. It is this same desire to reproduce that trained spiritual aspirants use to produce images which alter and enhance not only their personal evolution, but that of humanity in general." This is also the same rose carried by the Fool. The Fool, or incarnating soul, carried this rose to signify the purity of desire that the incarnating soul set out to bring into the life cycle. Upon physical birth and the advent of self-conscious awareness (the Magician), the rose becomes colored (red) by personal desire and subjectivity. Returned to white in Death, the flower intimates how the death experience clears and purifies our consciousness so that our perceptions are again impersonal and unified into the single desire for truth. The rose is also a symbol of love. It is through love that the driving energy behind sex, union, and reproduction brings us spiritual experience, illumination, and union with the Higher Self. It is therefore essential that we change our attitudes about sex to an attitude of "Unity with Life".

Fish were the first creatures with conscious life, and the ability of locomotion, which is the function of this Key. In meditation, we angle for the "fishes" of spiritual revelation.

Red background refers to the Mars force of this former ruler of Scorpio. The power of life and growth belongs to those who obey its Law, but it is instrumental in death and destruction to those who disobey.

Two twists in the skeleton, at the Mars center above pelvis and at the Venus center, a contortion physically impossible, refer to redirection of these energies on a higher non-physical level, to aid in attainment.

The bend in the river of consciousness shows the same thing, as it turns toward the rising Sun.

The seed at upper left refers to the Seed-Power of Scorpio's function. Two ovals, zeros, are united in this seed, and really are one. The inner oval represents the source of radiant energy from which proceed five rays: fire, air, earth, water, and ether. These extend to fill space of larger oval with energy of manifestation.

Zero also refers to the Fool, whose planet Uranus is exalted in Scorpio.

The white rose refers back to the same source, showing purified desire and right motivation of the desire nature brought into unison with Primal Will.

He walks toward the South, from darkness of ignorance to the light of perfection; from the dark, disintegrative forces, toward the regenerative solar forces.

The sun rising in the east shows a cycle of new beginning and dawn of higher consciousness.

Dark earth is the First Matter returned to its virginal state, to the unknown.

The scythe is a conventional symbol for the Grim Reaper. Its T-shape refers to the coiled Kundalini force of Saturn center at base of spine.

Its blade resembles a crescent, suggesting subconsciousness, steel is Mars' metal.

The male and female heads represent the twin Spheres and abstract rule of the Supernals, Wisdom and Understanding.

The boat represents the ark which has landed, with only the nucleus of a new beginning. The wheel is the representation of progress, new work to begin.

The boot shows where feet have trod, the water spilling out. At death, the seed or nucleus of Self is expelled from the physical form. The true part of us is deathless and eternal, taking on new form as the soul demands new experience.

The force represented here is also that of dissolution, which precedes every change or transformation. The last enemy to succumb is death, and to stop fearing change is one step in that direction.

🎨 Key 13 – Death: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔵🟢 Blue-Green
- **Path:** 24th Path – Netzach → Tiphareth (Nun, נ – “Fish”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔵🟢 Blue-Green
- **Meaning:** Blue-Green is the vibration of Scorpio, the sign of transformation. It is the fusion of blue (water, reflection) and green (growth, desire), symbolizing the current of regeneration and the renewal of life through death. The card shows dissolution not as an end, but as the alchemical process of rebirth.
- **Symbolism:** Transformation, renewal, regeneration, initiation into higher life.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Sun; band on man’s crown.
- **Meaning:** Solar vitality and consciousness persisting through the cycle of death.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, eternal light beyond change.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Stream.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters carrying the process of transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, continuity, current of subconscious renewal.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Rosebush and foliage.
- **Meaning:** Life emerging through transformation, new growth arising from dissolution.
- **Symbolism:** Fertility, regeneration, Nature’s harmony in cycles.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Handle of scythe; hair of man (light brown).
- **Meaning:** Stability of Earth, grounding force of mortality.
- **Symbolism:** Earth, foundation, grounding of transformation.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Blade of scythe.
- **Meaning:** Discriminating force, the cutting edge of transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Clarity, sharpness, decisive change.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Boat, wheel, shoe.
- **Meaning:** Neutral balance of forces amid dissolution and renewal.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, equilibrium, wisdom in transition.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Skeleton; rose. (Seed left unpainted.)
- **Meaning:** Innocence and Spirit enduring through transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, eternal Spirit, immortality beyond form.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel undergoing continual cycles of death and rebirth.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit incarnate in mortality.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Woman’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Radiance of solar vitality shining even amid dissolution.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, innocence, continuity of life.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

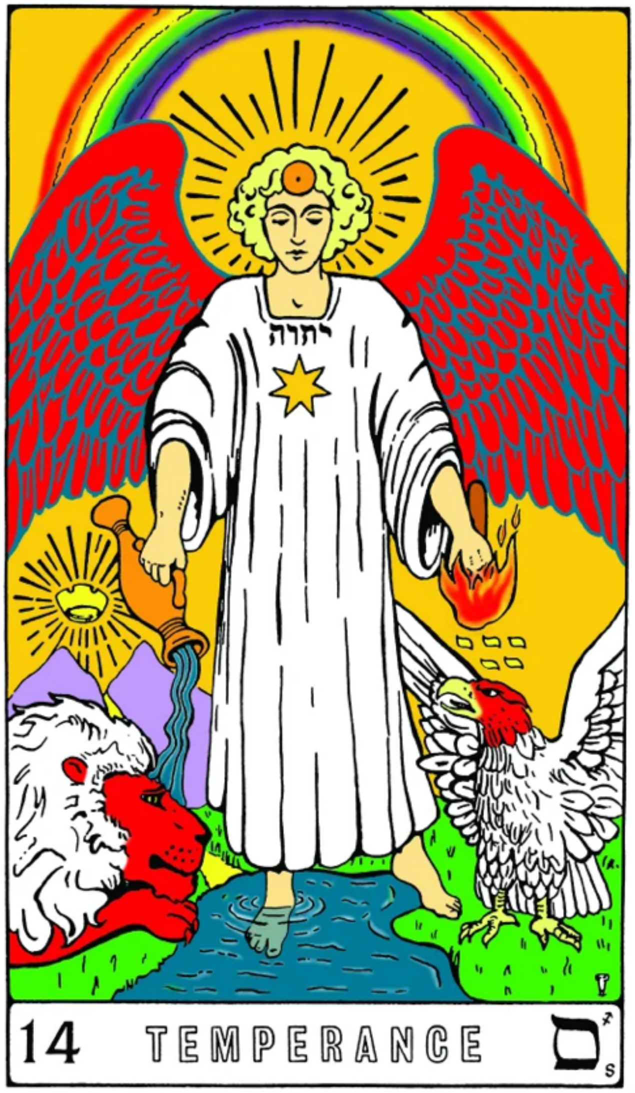
- **Areas:** Points in man’s crown; fish in stream.
- **Meaning:** Solar power illuminating symbols of transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Kingship, immortality, divine vitality hidden in cycles.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Sky in background.
- **Meaning:** Fiery vitality of Scorpio, the passion driving transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Energy, passion, power of renewal through dissolution.

The heads of the man and the woman refer to the two Spheres of Abstract Deity numbered two and three on the Tree of Life and called Wisdom and Understanding.

> "You have taken Wisdom as your guide in everything and called Understanding your mother. That is why I have given this revelation to you; there is a reward in store for you with the Most High . . ." 2 Esdras.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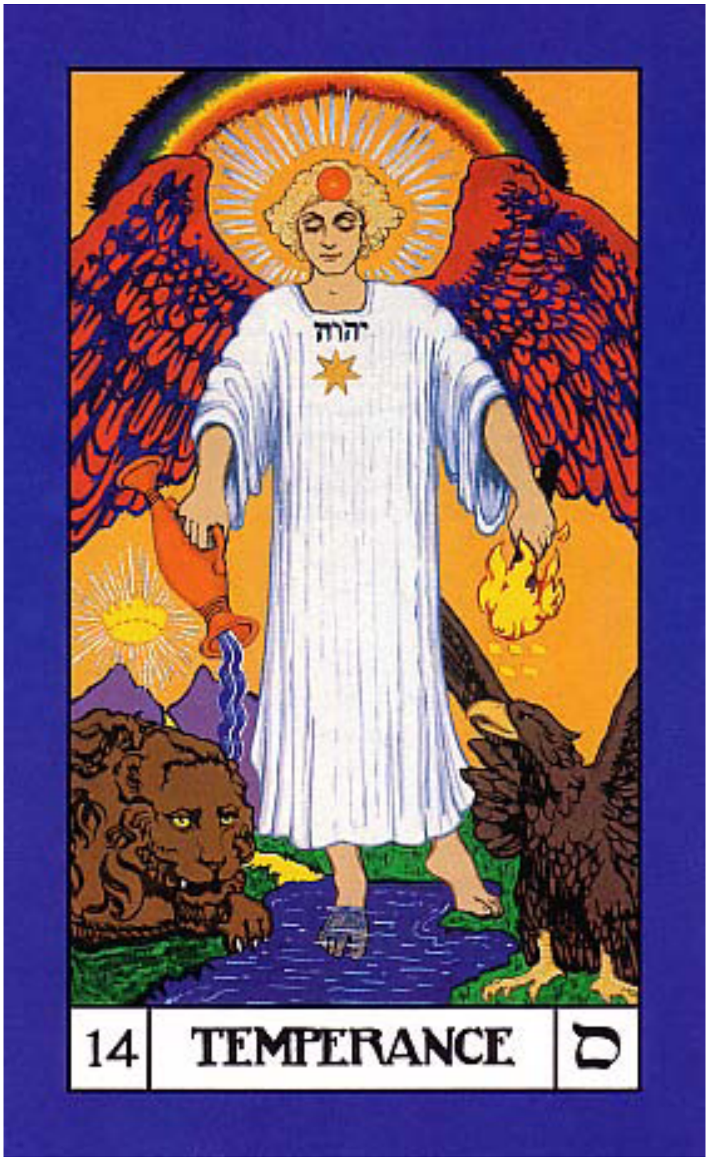
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Key 14
TEMPERANCE

Letter S Samekh - Tent-Peg

> *Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire . . . And the angel whom I saw standing on sea and land lifted up his right hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it. . . that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God as He announced to His servants, the prophets should be fulfilled*. - Revelation 10:1.

The Hebrew letter for this Key is shaped like a serpent swallowing its tail. In other words, it represents completion of the work of controlling the fiery "serpent" forces within us and their transformation into higher occult powers.

This work began in Key 8, when the letter Teth was drawn as a coiled serpent, as yet inactive. In Key 11, the letter Lamed clearly depicts the same serpent force uncoiled in action, and now he has reversed his first position to close the circle and complete the course.

The Magician, or mind-personality, can now lay down his girdle; for with this Key, man's personal efforts have taken him as far as he can go unaided. The time has come for higher forces to step down and take a hand in placing him on the spiritual Path.

The heavenly hierarchy is represented here by the Archangel Michael of the Sun. Michael literally means "one who is like God." His white gown represents purity, and the Hebrew letters IHVH just below the neckline show whence he came, exactly like the white undergarment of The Fool.

> *And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon . . . and the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent called the devil* . . . - Revelation 12:7

Michael, whose habitat is the fiery Sun, performs his work of casting out Satan by trying each spiritual aspirant in the fiery furnace in order to burn out all dross and impurities and refine the gold within him, so that he may be proven worthy to be called a Son of God.

This is the beginning of the "Great Work of the Sun," spoken of by alchemists; and Michael, his agent, comes to prepare the temple to make it ready and fit for the Most High when He comes.

The lion is colored red to represent the alchemical Sulphur, or Fire. This quality within the individual is being modified by the astral fluid flowing from the vase, which represents the stream of subconscious activities. The first destruction of godlessness in the world, and the cleansing thereof, was by floods of water in the time of Noah as told in Genesis 9:11-15:

> *"And I will establish my covenant with you; never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."*
>
> *"And God said, This is a sign of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth . . . the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh."*

But God said the next time He destroyed the world, it would be done by fie. The Sun represents the Fire element. Fire is also the symbol of Spirit.

The whole keynote of this card is the contrast of fire and water. Fire and water are most unlike elements, and when brought together, they react violently to "put each other out," or combine forces to produce steam, a source of great power. This is a secret of the use of opposing forces in our lives - not to react against, but to seek a way to use these forces for general good. After the flood, the sun came out and dried up the water.

The rainbow is caused by the sun shining through mist, made up of water droplets in the atmosphere. It causes the refraction of the Sun's pure white or colorless light into its seven component parts, the colors of the solar spectrum. The seven-pointed star also shows seven rays of golden Light, or seven phases of the One Force, the Seven Spirits of God. This star requires a special skill to draw geometrically correct and is, therefore, a symbol of mastery.

A rainbow is somewhat like a smile breaking through tears, much as sunshine overcomes a shower. This, too, is a form of mastery.

The mythological goddess of the rainbow was called Iris. She and Mercury were both messengers and were called on at different times to serve the gods. Iris wore a cloak of many colors, her shining garments trailing across the sky in a rainbow curve. The Rider version of Temperance refers to the goddess by showing Iris flowers growing at the angel's feet.

There is a real pot of gold at the end of this rainbow! That is the gold of spiritual attainment and the perfected being. For the true work of alchemy is to refine the gold within the individual - the gold called Sol, or Sun. The Golden Force streaming from the Great Sun is shown in the background of this Key.

Spiritual riches have been discovered, and the human quest is ended. But the work of Spirit is about to increase as man turns himself over to the Higher Powers to continue his evolvement.

The Hebrew name for Sagittarius is Qeseth, and the same word is used for "bow," so the sign Sagittarius fits very well for this Key to which it has been attributed. Sagittarius is a fire sign. Its symbol is drawn like a bow and arrow. The arrow representing directed Will is sent forth to pierce the rainbow, and to raise the consciousness. The higher the aim, the higher the goal. The fiery forces within man must be rightly directed in order to lift him to higher accomplishment.

As the result of this released force, a certain vibratory motion is set up. The dictionary defines vibration as "motion back and forth," or to quiver, or shake. Out atmosphere is filled with this invisible motion, or energy. We live in a vibratory universe, and the same laws at work on the earth plane also bring us the radiant energy from the Sun.

This Key is called Temperance because through the process of fire on water, and water on fire, our own "metal" is being tempered, and our "mettle" tried. It has to do with bringing together exact opposites in order to modify both through interaction.

As an alchemist wrote: "Fire and flowing water are contrary to one another; happy art thou if thou canst unite them. Let it suffice thee to know this."

The Qabalistic Path of this Key is called the Path of Tentative Intelligence, and of Probation or Trial, situated on the Tree of Life as the channel between Tiphareth and Yesod.

Probation here is meant in the sense of proving, through testing and tempering. It means verification, the application of what you have learned put into actual practice so you can see how much of it is true and how much you have actually mastered.

It is said: "Truth is established by trial." We must step out on what we have learned. Just learning the theory is not enough unless we can prove it in actual practice.

Tempering imparts strength to the object being treated. The use of opposing forces brings about equilibration as a result. Our mental patterns can also be changed by bringing into play an opposite condition.

This Path has been called "the first test whereby the Creator tries the Compassionate", that is, those advanced beings slated to become Compassionate Brothers unto those below them in the evolutionary scale.

The white eagle represents the water-sign Scorpio in a regenerated condition of purity. Flames of fire are being dropped on his head in the form of five yods from a torch in the angel's hand. Here the yods represent the fiery Life-Power as it breaks up into the five modes of manifestation - fire, air, earth, and water, plus their composite element, ether. The lion and eagle also depict the animal nature or Vital Soul which are being worked upon from above.

The angel dips one foot into the psychic or subconscious world, and his head in the Sun. It is here that human consciousness rises from the level of the astral plane to the consciousness of the Son, and his experiences at this stage may quite possibly include some from the psychic world.

The other foot rests upon the earth, the realm of physical form. Transformation must occur on both the conscious and subconscious levels in order to accomplish the spiritual work.

Michael holds the "vase of art," the vessel of the Soul, that furnace which is the body; and hm this the waters of consciousness pour forth. To this must be applied the fire of Spirit in order to transmute the gold. He has "taken in hand" the human personality, in order to raise it.

Michael is called the Holy Guardian Angel, symbol of the Divine Presence forever overshadowing us, always available at our call for guidance and help. One must invite the contact by confidently expecting it and lifting the consciousness toward its level.

The number 14 reduces to 5, number of The Teacher. There is a correlation between the two in the sense that both have to do with the inner guidance of the individual. If the inner hearing depicted in Key 5 is well-developed, the Guardian Angel will have an easier time getting through.

His wings are red to show the fiery aspect of the sign Sagittarius, and the highlights are of the blue color attributed to that sign. The path behind him is the Path of Return, shown also, in Key 18. It rises in wave-vibration pattern to a point between the twin peaks which represent Chokmah and Binah, or Wisdom and Understanding.

Hovering above it is the crown of attainment to be inherited by all who "endure to the end," as Jesus said - those who pass the tests and trials without falling by the wayside. The crown is also, the Symbo1 of Kether, the first Sephirah. Rays from the Crown look very much like those from the head of the angel. The purpose of this Key is to establish the foundation of our house of life as denoted by the letter Samekh, which means "Tent-peg" or "prop," in the sense of the support of a dwelling - that which firms and stabilizes. The dwelling which interests us now is the Holy Temple or House of God.

Key 14
TEMPERANCE

To this Key is attributed the *Intelligence of Probation*, or Trial. This refers to the testing through which every aspirant must pass before he can reach the heights of *Initiation*. Its object is to determine his temper, or strength. Thus, you see that Temperance refers to the act of tempering, or the making of a properly balanced mixture. It has a distinct reference to *equilibration*, for the Initiate must be perfectly balanced, with reference to all his vehicles. He no longer goes to extremes, but has mastery of the pairs of opposites, because he invariably chooses the middle path between two extreme courses of action.

The rainbow represents the differentiation of light into color by means of water. The angel is androgynous and represents the Higher Self. He wears the symbol of solar energy upon his brow. The seven-pointed star on the breast represents the works of man, because the seven-sided figure cannot be drawn geometrically, but requires the aid of measuring tools. The fire from the torch falls upon an eagle, symbol of water, and the water from the vase falls upon a lion, symbol of fire. Thus, we see a representation of the union of opposite forces in opposite directions. The twin mountain peaks are wisdom and understanding, and the crown above them represents the Primal Will.

Key 14 – Temperance (Samekh, ס)

Hebrew Letter: Samekh (ס) – “Prop” or “Support” 🪢

- ס Samekh means Prop or Support — that which upholds, sustains, and stabilizes.
- Symbol of equilibrium, moderation, and the unseen support of Spirit.
- A Simple Letter, Samekh governs Sagittarius, the sign of aspiration, discipline, and higher vision.

English Equivalent / Value: S = 60

- Fifteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 60 = stability, balance, support.
- Samekh as prop = inner strength, invisible pillar sustaining life.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Tentative Intelligence

- Called the intelligence of trial and testing.
- Through balance and tempering, consciousness is refined and made strong.

Aspect of Consciousness: Combination / Moderation / Wrath Transmuted

- Faculty of anger and its transformation.

- Temperance is the art of alchemy — blending opposites, refining passions into wisdom.
- Consciousness here is disciplined, directed, and harmonious.

Astrology: Sign Sagittarius ♐ — Nov 22–Dec 21 (Kislev / Winter Approach)

- Sagittarius = aspiration, travel, expansion toward truth.
- Ruled by Jupiter ♃ — vision, wisdom, and benevolence.
- Represents the quest for higher truth through balanced discipline.

Polarity: Cleverness ↔️ Stupidity

- Cleverness = refined discernment, moderation.
- Stupidity = excess, imbalance, misuse of energy.

Seasonal Associations:

- Winter approach — discipline of fire in cold season, alchemy of opposites.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵 Blue

- Blue = equilibrium, harmony, expansion tempered by discipline.
- Symbol of calm strength, aspiration, and balance.

Musical Note: 🎵 G♯ / A♭

- Resonates with the alchemy of harmony, tempering opposites into unity.

Path on the Tree: 25th Path

- Connects Netzach (Victory) → Yesod (Foundation).
- Called the Tentative Intelligence — path of trial, balance, and refinement.
- The angel of Temperance pours fire into water, uniting above and below.

Cube of Space: West Above Edge

- Samekh rules the Cube’s west-above edge — sustaining support across horizon and height.
- Represents the hidden prop balancing the structure of the Cube.

Alchemy / Metal: Tin ⚖️ (Jupiter)

- Expansive, stabilizing, and protective.
- Represents benevolence, wisdom, and the harmonizing of energies.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 14 S Samekh Temperance Wrath

Aspect of Consciousness: Verification
The Law of Probation: A testing or trial, as of a person's character, as to their ability to meet certain requirements or their fitness for a position. Truth is established by trial. In order to know, we must do. This is the alchemical furnace where our personality is in the process of being tempered and refined. These tests and trials have to do with how we react in any given situation, be it little or big. At any time that you become a different sort of personality as a result of tests and trials, pain or heartbreak, you have gone through an inner initiation.

Its function is the Knowledge of Conversation of the Holy Guardian Angel and tempering of the metal.

Hebrew Name: Samekh (prop)
Samekh means tent-peg or prop, and as such corresponds to that part of a structure or house which acts as the foundation or primary support in any structure. Thus, it symbolizes "that which is the basis or support for our house of life. It is that which sustains, preserves and maintains our personal existence."

The function or sense attributed to Samekh is vibration. Intense vibration is often felt as Wrath. "Vibration is the fundamental nature of the fiery power which makes sight possible, and that same power is the source of all our strength." Vibration is the basis or foundation of all manifestation.

Wrath is the quality associated with the Key, and the Hebrew word for "wrath" relates more to quivering, or vibration. This is the activity which makes both sight and manifestation possible.

Letter S, or soft C, Samekh in Hebrew meaning "prop" or "tent peg," the support of a dwelling place. In formation, it is likened to a serpent which has completed the cycle of its action and swallowed its tail, now in perfect control of the serpent force. Note Keys 8 and 11.

Qabalistic Intelligence: Intelligence of Probation or Trial
This is the mode of consciousness which puts theories and hypotheses to the test of verification. All such testing and work in the laboratories of life consist of "the examination and modification of various modes of vibration."

Astrological Correspondence: Sagittarius
Samekh correlates with the fire-sign Sagittarius. Sagittarius, the archer, rules the hips and thighs which "support the weight of the body in standing or sitting." And as we are gradually tempered by the tests and trials of life, our aspirations and desires become

forged into "into an arrow of purpose pointed toward the goal of becoming More Than Man." Sagittarius is ruled by Jupiter.

Number: 14
The power of 4 acting through the agency of 1. The power of divine sight and reason expressing through self-consciousness. He who puts in order (The Emperor, Tarot key 4), puts in order via the process of testing, tempering, and trial.

Keynote: Tempering metal-mettle, by fire and water.

Number of Key, 14. Numerical value of letter Samekh, 60.

Path of Wisdom 25 is called the Intelligence of Probation and Trial, "the first temptation by which God tests the devout, or the compassionate."

Color / Note: Blue / G#

The Scene: The Archangel Michael pours a liquid (the fiery waters of consciousness) back and forth, from one cup to another. He is tempering and modifying the substance placed in his charge - human personality.

Archangel: Michael, the Archangel of Fire, angel of the Sun. The angel pours water on fire and fire on water, meaning that our personalities are being tempered through the experience of opposites. Fire and water make steam, and this turmoil is the process of transmutation, of refinement. It's the alchemical process of turning the base metal of our personalities into gold. The Holy Guardian angel (who is in fact our own Higher Self) makes all the tests and trials which lead us along the path of attainment.

Cup on left (lower/receiving cup): Symbol for the Fiery energy, Leo, and the animal nature. In Key 8 (Strength) we saw a picture of humanized subconsciousness (the woman) gaining control through the faculties of higher levels. Here we see the primeval, vital animal soul being worked upon directly by the Higher Self.

Cup on Right (higher/pouring cup): Symbol for the, watery energy, Scorpio, and the procreative, sex nature. Scorpio represents the force behind the drive for mating -the sex energies.

Pool: Corresponds to Yesod, the seat of the automatic consciousness, the vital soul in man.

Path/Mountains: Starts at pool and ends at mountain top and crown signifying attainment. This path is shown again in Tarot Key 18 (The Moon) and is fully explained there.

The gold background refers to solar energies coming to earth from life-giving Sun, the rays of the physical Sun.

Michael (meaning "one who is like God") is the archangel of the Sun, here identified by the solar disk on his head.

The rainbow is caused by rays of Sun shining through raindrops or mist. Fire and water acting upon each other is one of the functions of this Key, as symbols of tempering metal.

A rainbow represents the water of consciousness mingling with solar energy; vibrations of One Light refracting into differentiations of color, as sun dries the waters of the flood. The same Hebrew word is used for both Sagittarius and for rainbow - Qesheth. The angel's fiery wings combine fiery red with water blue.

Genesis 9:11. - "Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood. I shall set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Rev. 10:1 - "I saw a mighty angel with a rainbow over his head..."

At neckline of the robe, which is white for purity, are seen the letters IHVH, the Tetragrammaton, Yahweh. On its front is shown the seven-pointed star of Venus, and of mastery.

The Vase of Art refers to the vessel of human personality, "our Mercury" of the alchemist, and the furnace in which the purification takes place, to rid the aspirant of error.

Its orange color refers both to the Sun and to Gemini, as the habitation of Mercury.

This purification must be done by the Higher Self, or the Holy Guardian Angel. While sometimes terrifying to the impure, the product of Temperance is the gold of enlightenment.

Water represents the Astral fluid or subconscious activities at work, to modify the animal nature shown here by the earthy color.

The lion is of the fire element, as opposites are tested against each other.

The eagle, of the water element, is modified in turn by fire, falling in five Yods, or five differentiations as shown by the five elements -- aether, fire, air, earth, and water.

Nature alone does not perform this activity; it requires the intervention of higher powers when ready.

Between the twin peaks of Wisdom and Understanding rises the Path of Return to God - the Path which began at the pool.

The Crown shown above the peaks is the one given to him who overcomes or attains, gaining self-mastery and union with the One Self.

TRUTH IS ESTABLISHED BY TRIAL - doing something about what you have learned.

🎨 Key 14 – Temperance: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔵 Blue (Sagittarius)
- **Path:** 25th Path – Netzach → Yesod (Samekh, ס – “Prop”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔵 Blue
- **Meaning:** Blue is the vibration of Sagittarius, symbolizing reflection, memory, and subconscious continuity. In this Key it signifies the flowing balance of energies, the blending of opposites into harmony. The angel works within the field of the subconscious, building the rainbow bridge between heaven and earth.
- **Symbolism:** Blending, balance, integration of opposites, harmony of Spirit and Nature.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Path to mountain; crown above peaks; yods over eagle; torch flame (streaked with red); eyes of lion.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity shining through crown, fire, and divine sparks.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, divine radiance.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Torch handle; tawny lion body (brown + yellow).
- **Meaning:** Stability and natural grounding of fiery force.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, grounding, earthly strength.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Pool of water; stream from vase; highlights on wings.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters of life and the reflective currents of Spirit.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, flowing depth, purification.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Grass.
- **Meaning:** Fertility and harmony springing from balanced currents.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, balance, harmony of Nature.

🟠 Orange – Vital Force of Splendor

- **Areas:** Vase; disk on angel’s head.
- **Meaning:** Radiant vitality and Splendor manifesting through vessels.
- **Symbolism:** Enthusiasm, radiant energy, divine receptacle of light.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Mountains in background (diluted).
- **Meaning:** Authority of Spirit expressed in distant peaks.
- **Symbolism:** Spiritual power, higher truth, sovereignty.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Background area; star on gown (substitute yellow with orange tint if needed).
- **Meaning:** Radiant perfection of solar consciousness.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, divine vitality, solar authority.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Angel’s robe; eagle body; lion’s head top; dress; clouds.
- **Meaning:** Purity, innocence, Spirit’s unconditioned presence.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit, innocence, divine clarity.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Angel’s hair; eagle beak, feet, legs.
- **Meaning:** Radiance of solar vitality shining through angel and eagle.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, abundance, illumination.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Angel’s hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of blended currents.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit embodied.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Angel’s wings (with blue highlights); lion; top of eagle’s head.

- **Meaning:** Fiery vitality infused with harmony.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, power, creative energy in balance.

🌈 Rainbow – Divine Bridge

- **Areas:** Rainbow arch (from violet inward to red outward: violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, red).
- **Meaning:** The rainbow is the natural bridge between heaven and earth, signifying divine contact with humanity, a covenant of harmony.
- **Symbolism:** Unity, covenant, aspiration fulfilled, Spirit's bridge of harmony.

🌈 Rainbow Mnemonic

"Virtuous Inner Balance Guides Your Outer Radiance."

- **V = Violet (innermost)** 🟣
- **I = Indigo (Blue-Violet)** 🔵🟣
- **B = Blue** 🔵
- **G = Green** 🟢
- **Y = Yellow** 🟡
- **O = Orange** 🟠
- **R = Red (outermost)** 🔴

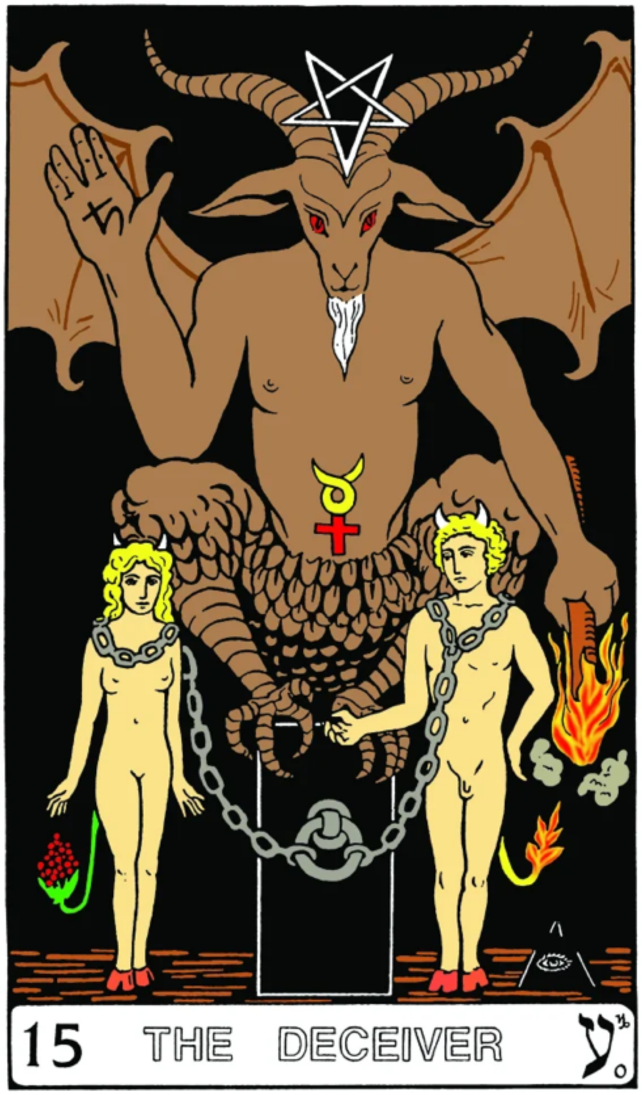
⚫ Black – Occult Mystery

- **Areas:** YHVH on angel's robe below neck.
- **Meaning:** Veiled mystery of the Divine Name.
- **Symbolism:** Sacred mystery, concealed power, primal foundation.

The rainbow appears to form a natural bridge between heaven and earth, and it was thought by primitive peoples that when a rainbow appeared in the sky, God was seeking to make contact with man, providing a bow for man's arrow of aspiration.

In the Hebrew religion it formed a sign of the covenant of God's promise to man, involving His pardon and reconciliation with the human race.

Christian art sometimes depicts the rainbow as a throne of the Christ, particularly in representations of the Last Judgment. Its overall symbology is that of union, of a link between heaven and earth, God and man, sent from above.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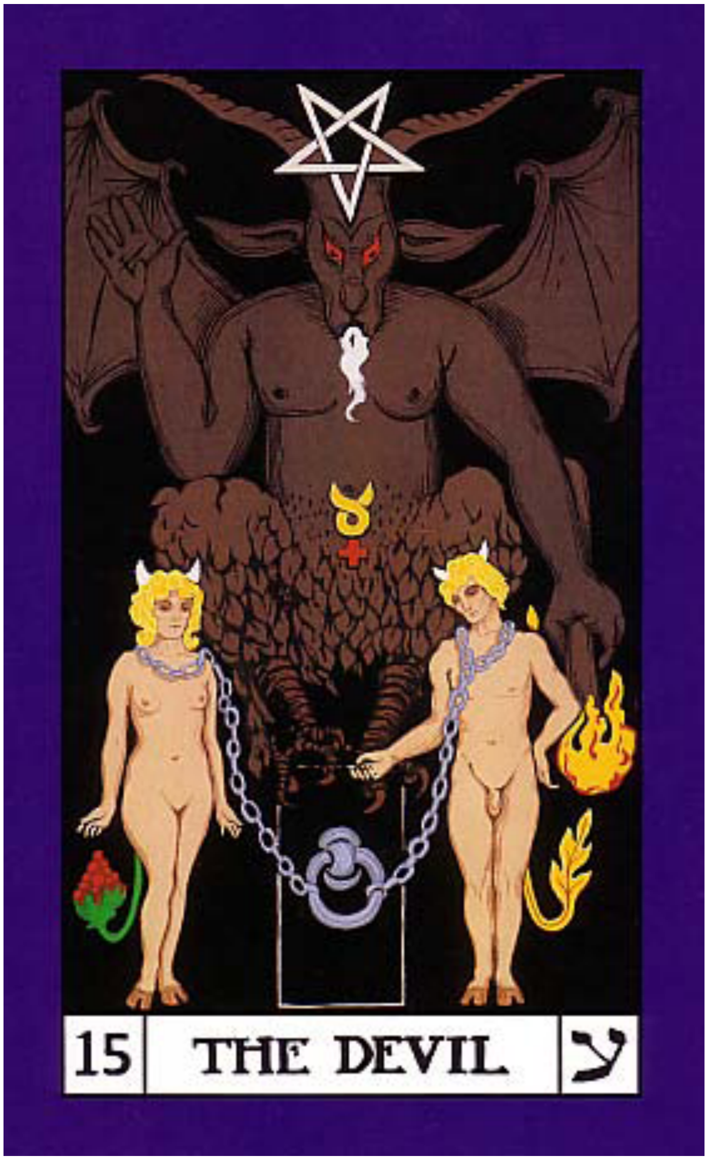
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Key 15
THE DECEIVER
(Formerly called The Devil)

Letter O Ayin - Eye

> *Judge not by appearance, for that which appears beareth small resemblance to that which is.*

This is the first of seven steps to spiritual attainment. It is at this point that you become aware that the Eye of the Lord is in every place and is upon you minutely in all you do. Because man's own spiritual vision has atrophied from misuse since the Fall of Adam, the beginning of spiritual experience becomes a time of intense awareness of his own lack and need for spiritual sight.

Part of man's lack in spiritual sight is based on his inclination to judge all things by their surface appearance. It is because of this false judgment that man has become bound by chains he forged himself and has become a slave to appearances. In this has been found duality and confusion, yet it is when one reaches the very depth and can see no other way out that he is at last ready for the spiritual Path - to go all the way, having learned the fallacy of other ways.

The Hebrew letter Ayin means not only "Eye," but also "fountain" and "outward appearance." Red eyes show the exaltation of Mats, the planet ruling sight, in the earth sign Capricorn, the sign which rules this Key. The Deceiver, this illusion sometimes called the "father of lies," is holding up his palm to full view, trying to tell you that what you see before you is all there is - "there isn't any more" - in contrast to The Teacher, who told you that there is always more than is seen or can be revealed.

The contrast of this Key with the previous one underlines the difference between the angel of darkness and the angel of light. It is said in the Qabalah that "with each Soul is sent into the world both a guardian angel and an accusing angel." Key 14 shows the Guardian Angel, who guides us and defends good from evil; but here is shown the accusing one, the opponent or adversary, the enemy of God which is hostile or antagonistic toward that which is good. He represents that which we create or build up in opposition to what God is. We create our own monstrosity, contrary to all God represents. Therefore, it has to be removed so He can come through.

Yet all the attributes wrapped up in this one apparition show the accumulated error of the man and woman who descended (or fell) from Adam and Eve. Man is accused by his own error. Their own mistakes have brought them to this predicament. They have fallen into the mud, and only through the ascent of spirit can they rise like the glistening white lotus out of this situation.

The darkness here is that of fear and ignorance. The dark and "evil" side of life is given power to the extent that we accept or dwell on it. Ignoring it will not always cause it to go away, but one need not accept it as part of his life. The devil never made anyone do anything. Man has the full power of control and direction, and of choice between good and evil. We have passed through the refiner's fire at the human level
with the Archangel Michael on our side to fight for the good. No longer shall we be as ordinary mortals. The outcome of this was to gain control over the occult forces, bringing awareness of the development of certain inner powers made possible through overcoming. But now that very "serpent force," so hardly won, begins to whisper temptations in our ear. He whom we have overcome has decided to use subtlety to gain back his control.

This is the point of choice, where the dread Dweller on the Threshold seeks to prevent our entrance into higher states. Actually, he is testing our worthiness to enter. He asks us to stop right there and not attempt to go any further, by offering us the pleasures of this world. He says: "Why not play with and pervert these powers for the sake of earthly gain." But if the candidate for the Path says, like Jesus: "Get thee behind me, Satan," the battle is won.

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness was rather in the nature of a postscript. He had already taken the step forward at the baptism, having pleased God and been accepted as His beloved Son. But his readiness to take up the work was still not proven, not brought down to earth. This is where the earthy tempter forced him to show his hand and seal his decision. The Deceiver is the Dweller on the Threshold who tries to tempt every seeker on The Way to turn into devious other paths than the One Path - all of them seeming easier and pleasanter at the outset, because the grade is downward. But would Jesus be our Lord now if He had chosen the prizes of power and great gain The Adversary offered Him in the desert?

This Key shows the negative result from over binding in the realm of form. The Path being just beside the Sephirah called Splendor on the Tree of Life makes it possible for them to find their way out through intellectual enlightenment, since wrong use of intellect got them there.

The pentagram, or five-pointed star, is a symbol of man; and placed upside down here it shows man's perversion, the reversal of his true place in The Cosmos which God promised Adam should be one of dominion.

This first stage of spiritual unfoldment is the point at which one becomes conscious of the world's bondage, and impatient of its hold. The man and woman, or the conscious and subconscious minds, stand in chains loose enough to that as soon as they see their error, and recognize their actual freedom from the domination of darkness, they can remove the chains and walk away.

A hymn to the Egyptian Sun-God Ra says: "Thy priests go forth at dawn; they wash their hearts with laughter."

The Deceiver presents to our attention a dual world wherein there could be both Good and Evil in direct contradiction to God's Word, after God had made the world and pronounced as "good" everything He had created. The Greek word from which "devil" comes means "slanderer."

> *"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now, is come, salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down which accused them before our God, day and night."*
> Revelation 12:10.

1 Peter 5:8 says: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith..." The advice of Jesus, however, was "resist not evil, but make way for good." Use the energy constructively to build a good way, rather than spend it fighting the evil.

Capricorn, the sign of this Key, is ruled by Saturn. The Egyptians called this sign Typhon. Its symbol is usually a goat with the tail of a dolphin. Capricorn rules mountains, and is an earth sign, the ruler of the tenth house, the highest in the horoscope - as Capricorn usually rules the heights of worldly ambition, as well as positions of authority.

Yet, it is more than that, for throughout the world, out of the deepest darkness, Capricorn is the sign which witnesses the birth of the avatar. This sign is symbolic of all world redeemers; for the Sun entering Capricorn reaches its lowest point, the shortest day in the year, and will then immediately begin its yearly climb once more to the heights of summer where it will enjoy the longest day. So, it is said the Sun is born at the winter solstice, as Light is born out of darkness.

The goat is not a conformist like the sheep. He strays off on independent paths. The fish's tail shows that this sign knows the depths, and the goat shows that it also can climb to the heights, thus its influence extends from one to the other. In the physical body Capricorn rules the knees; and it is when we feel a sense of bondage through muddled affairs that we finally sink to our knees in prayer. Must one wait to be goaded by misfortune into seeking God?

The Path of this Key is called The Renewing Intelligence. When we take stock and recognize how things really stand, we are ready for a program of renewal. Matching wits with the crafty Deceiver helps prepare us by developing skill and judgment.

The feet of this illusionary creature are shown ss eagle's claws. These represent misuse of the Scorpio force as does also the smoldering torch. The torch symbolizes the transmission of the Life-force from father to son; but little light is given while it smokes wastefully. It represents basically the misuse of the creative Life Force, diverting it for sense purposes to the generative organs instead of toward regeneration. That is the significance of the tail which man, or conscious mind, has developed - his trademark of membership in the animal kingdom, over which the human Adam had been given rulership.

The female figure, or subconscious mind, has a tail plus a bunch of grapes, as though her fall from grace was caused by tasting forbidden fruit. Since a person is known by his fruits, hers are but of animal nature.

These two are chained to a figure which is only the drawing of a cube, a figure having no dimension, therefore, a false pedestal with a false god seated thereon. Being but the surface of a cube depicts that only surface knowledge of the physical plane is available here.

They are positioned much like the figures in Key 6, but no longer in innocence. Their horns and hooves also show their regression to animal nature. Still, by their intelligent faces, we may assume they will lift their chains when they become sufficiently irked, and face facts.

The bat wings of The Adversary show him as a night-flying creature. The black background represents the limitation and darkness of ignorance, which also provides a thick veil for hiding the Truth.

The navel shows a Mercury symbol - the upper half of mental-color yellow, and the lower half the red cross of physical activities. The position of the arms are reminiscent of the Magician, but with the feeling reversed through a caricatured benediction.

The function attributed to this Key is Mirth (laughter or merriment), and that is a sure way to dissolve darkness. If we can rise far enough above our troubles to get a good perspective of them, we will see how ridiculous the whole situation appears and how lie a comic-strip caricature. Then, if we can laugh whole-heartedly at the situation, all seeming devils flee and disappear. Wholesome laughter has a healing, cleansing effect.

Key 15
THE DECEIVER
(Formerly called The Devil)

To this Key of grotesque and terrible aspect is attributed Mirth. The Devil is that horrible character of exoteric dogmatism which is so ridiculous to an enlightened person. But deeper than this the figure represents the delusion of outward appearance. Key 15 is the opposite of Key 6, hence it shows what happens to us when we fail to use our faculty of discrimination. The ancients declared that the devil is God inverted. This refers to the conception of matter as opposed to *Spirit,* though the truth-is that they are both aspects of ONE THING, as is so graphically symbolized by the interlaced black and white triangles familiar to every student of occultism.

The black background is a symbol of darkness and ignorance. The inverted pentagram on the brow of the devil symbolizes mental inversion, since it is the sign of Man in reverse position. Thus, it symbolizes falsehood and delusion. The symbol at the navel of the devil is that of Mercury. The pedestal upon which he sits is a half-cube, symbo1izing an imperfect understanding of the physical world, which is represented by a cube. The two figures are personifications of the self-conscious and subconscious minds, and their horns and hoofs indicate that delusion bestializes human consciousness. The chain which holds them to the block of delusion represents Bondage, which is attributed to Key 15.

Key 15 – The Devil

Hebrew Letter: Ayin (ע) – “Eye” 👁️
- ע Ayin means *Eye* — symbol of perception, appearance, and illusion.
- Represents sight distorted by desire, seeing only the surface rather than truth.
- A Simple Letter, Ayin governs Capricorn, the sign of endurance, testing, and bondage that leads to freedom.

English Equivalent / Value: O (Ayin) = 70
- Sixteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 70 = completion of a cycle of perception, depth of vision.
- Ayin as eye = the power of vision, but also the danger of being deceived by appearances.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Renewing Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that perpetually renews creation.
- Through facing shadow and illusion, the soul is refreshed by new strength.

Aspect of Consciousness: Mirth / Laughter / Facing the Shadow
- Faculty of mirth — humor as release of tension.
- The Devil represents laughter at illusion, freeing oneself from false bondage.
- Consciousness here learns endurance through facing shadow directly.

Astrology: Sign Capricorn ♑ — Dec 22–Jan 19 (Tevet / Winter Solstice)
- Capricorn = ambition, discipline, endurance, confrontation with limitation.
- Ruled by Saturn ♄ — structure, bondage, and eventual freedom through endurance.
- Represents the descent into matter, where Spirit must awaken within form.

Polarity: Freedom ↔️ Slavery
- Freedom = laughter, recognition of illusion.
- Slavery = bondage to appearances, fear, and distorted vision.

Seasonal Associations:
- Winter Solstice — the darkest season, testing of endurance, seed of renewal hidden in bondage.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵🟣 Indigo-Blue Violet
- Indigo-Violet = depth, mystery, appearance of shadow.
- Symbolizes the test of vision — to see beyond illusion into truth.

Musical Note: 🎵 A
- Resonates with endurance, testing, and the penetrating depth of perception.

Path on the Tree: 26th Path
- Connects Hod (Splendor) → Tiphareth (Beauty).
- Called the Renewing Intelligence — path of renewal through confrontation with illusion.
- The Devil's bondage is illusory, chains easily slipped when truth is seen.

Cube of Space: West Below Edge
- Ayin rules the Cube's west-below edge — depth of shadow and testing.
- Represents the lowest vision of appearance, the eye of matter, and the test of Spirit within form.

Alchemy / Metal: Lead ⚫ (Saturn)
- Heavy, dense, resistant.
- Represents the binding weight of matter and the slow transmutation into freedom.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 15 O Ayin Adversary Mirth

Aspect of Consciousness: Bondage
This is the bondage of ignorance resulting from an external, superficial way of seeing. It is ignorance that is the underlying cause of bondage. Superficial observation and hasty generalization result in bondage. This Key shows the first stage of spiritual unfoldment. It is the stage of conscious known as "bondage" - the false idea that man is bound by material conditions, physical needs, and is a plaything of chance. The Devil is sensation, divorced from understanding. Laugh at the Devil, however, and he, with all his angles will flee. For Mirth is the solvent.

Hebrew Name: Ayin (eye)
"Ayin means 'eye' and 'foundation'. It signifies also the external, superficial

appearances of things. As the organ of sight, the eye is the most important sense-tool, hence symbolists take it to represent all sensation [...] through the eye we see appearances only. Hence the eye represents the limitations of the visible, and the bondage of ignorance resulting from the acceptance of these limitations and appearances as being all there is."

The function or sense attributed to Ayin is mirth or laughter. Laughter is provoked by irony, incongruity, idiosyncrasies, quirks, and human weaknesses. Laughter is a response to the realization that "what meets the eye" is not in accordance with good sense.

Letter O, or in Hebrew Ayin, meaning "Eye," or "outward appearance," or "fountain."

This is called the First Stage of Spiritual Unfoldment, for the one who has been tempered and tried in the previous step. The first step is to see squarely the ridiculousness of all that had appeared before as most important, in the eyes of the worldly consciousness.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Renewing Intelligence
"This is directly related to Mirth, because the perception of incongruities is what actually brings forth new ideas and adaptations. An incongruity is something which does not fit. When we find a fact that does not fit in with our beliefs, we are obliged to revise our theories, unless we are the sort of "green apple" who prefers a comfortable lie to an uncomfortable truth."

Astrological Correspondence: Capricorn
Astrologically, this is Capricorn, ruled by Saturn. Physically it rules the knees, to which we are brought in prayer when afflicted. "Capricorn, the Goat, is a cardinal, earthy sign, governing the knees, to which we are brought in prayer by our sense of bondage and personal insufficiency. The natives of Capricorn are said to be quiet, studious, and somewhat inclined to materialism." Saturn rules Capricorn: Bondage is brought about by a superficial or inadequate understanding of the principle of limitation. Mars is exalted in Capricorn: The fiery principle of volition finds its highest expression in the overcoming of bondage.

Number: 15
The power of 5 acting through the agency of 1. Intuition expressing through self-consciousness. When our intuition expresses itself actively, we are no longer seeing with the eye only. With intuition, we can see where things are out of kilter. Intuition allows us to see through the ridiculous face of incongruous appearances and respond with humor. Thus, we are literally able to laugh at the Devil, and all other "appearances" of our current (limiting) situation.

Key Number 15, whose Keynote is bondage, and the delusion of outer appearances.

Its function, however, is Mirth -- incongruity causing laughter, which is a cleansing agent.

Path of Wisdom 26, called the "Renewing Intelligence, whereby God reneweth all which are begun afresh, in the creation of the world."

Color / Note: Blue-Violet / A

The Scene: The Devil perches on a half-cube while a bestialized man and woman stand in chains.

Devil: "The Devil is the English for the Latin diabolus, adversary. The picture refers to man's ideas concerning the nature of that which seems so relentlessly to oppose his struggles for freedom."

The Devil is the polar opposite of the Archangel of Key 14, and a depicts a caricature of the scene shown in The Lovers of Key 6. Bondage (K15) is what happens when we don't discriminate (K6). His horns refer to the sign of Capricorn. "His bat wings signify the powers of darkness. His face is that of a goat, but his ears are those of a donkey to suggest his obstinacy and the stubbornness of materialism. His body is thickset and of an earthen color to represent the earthy quality of Capricorn. One side is masculine, the other feminine, because what he represents partakes of the characteristics of both sexes."

The Devil gestures with his right hand to say, 'What sensation reports is all there is to know.' "In his left hand is a torch, burning wastefully and giving little light. It is a phallic symbol representing the transmission of life from generation to generation. [It is also] the fiery torch of revolution, based on materialistic interpretations of experience, the torch of terrorism and anarchy."[7] The Devil's feet are the claws of an eagle - corresponding to the sign of Scorpio. "Here the eagle's claws refer to the materialization and misuse of the reproductive power, and its debasement in the service of sensuality."

Inverted pentagram: This is a key to the meaning of the figure. "The pentagram is the symbol of man, and an inverted Pentagram suggests the reversal of true understanding of man's place in the cosmos."

Half-Cube: Symbolic for half-truths. The man and woman are chained to half-truths.

Man & Woman: Symbolic of the human Self-Conscious and Sub-Conscious modes. The horns and tails show that when we hastily generalize from false or superficial premises or appearances, we become bestialized. Also, observe that though they are chained to the cube, the loops of the chains are so large that they could easily lift them off their heads. This bondage is imaginary.

The black background represents the darkness of ignorance, and the veil hiding Truth.

Bat wings symbolize a creature of night and darkness, and of the air.

The figure of a winged goat as used in Ancient mid-Eastern teachings have since degenerated from a valid symbol of a teacher to that used in witchcraft as their god, Satan.

Rev. 12: 9 - "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent called the devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world. He was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him . . . ", fighting Michael and his angels of Light.

The goat of Capricorn is caricatured, in its negative sense of earthy-brown sensuality. Do not underrate the sign itself: In Capricorn are traditionally born the World Saviors, just past the winter's longest and darkest night as the darkness just before the dawn, spiritually too.

Inverted pentagram shows mental delusion in belief that man is still dominated by earthly elements, before he learns what he is.

The red eyes correlate with Mars' exaltation in Capricorn, ruling Aries. Eyes deceive, and the devil is called the father of lies.

The pedestal is only a front, intended to show a cube which has no depth and is not even real. It shows that partial sight is all that is possessed by those who accept surface appearances, for physical vision reveals only a fraction of what is there.

On his uplifted hand is the symbol of Saturn, planet of limitation and discipline. He shows the whole palm in an effort to deceive others into believing that there is nothing except as physically seen, that he's showing you all that exists.

The symbol at the navel is an adaptation of Mercury, the red cross of physical response to mental activity. It is an imperfect symbol.

The torch smolders wastefully -- showing the inverted use of Mars force, as does the tail of the man which it activates.

The tail of the woman suggests the outgrowth of forbidden hit, or the hits of misdirected action. Both their tails point to overdevelopment of the animal nature.

The horns also show their descent in consciousness through baser living -- Adam and Eve at the lowest stage since their fall.

The intelligence on their faces shows they will not remain in bondage to appearances. Once they laugh at their troubles, they will just fade away, like a nightmare fades at dawn.

The tempter came to Jesus, after he was baptized and spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness, to see if he would turn aside to enjoy an earthly kingdom. Each must make some hurdle or other, past the dweller on his particular threshold, before he is proven ready to scale spiritual heights.

This has to be the first step out on the spiritual path (after all the preparation), because the strength must be tried before he has gone too far, that the fall, if any, be not too great.

🎨 Key 15 – The Devil: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟣🔵 Blue-Violet (Capricorn)
- **Path:** 26th Path – Tiphareth → Hod (Ayin, ע – "Eye")
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟣🔵 Blue-Violet
- **Meaning:** Blue-Violet is the vibratory field of Capricorn, the Goat, linked to Ayin, the Eye. It symbolizes the descent of Spirit into matter, the initiation through limitation and bondage, and the hidden light concealed in shadow. The Devil represents the illusory chains of ignorance, which dissolve when negative tendencies are cast into the fire of Divine Understanding.
- **Symbolism:** Apparent bondage, ignorance, attachment, which when dissolved become the foundation of liberation.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Upper half of insignia near Devil's navel; hair of man and woman streaked with red; torch flame (with red streaks); flames on man's tail.
- **Meaning:** The spark of intellect and divine light shines even amid distortion.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, mental clarity, hidden light within darkness.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Tail of woman.
- **Meaning:** Desire and fertility bound in form, awaiting transmutation.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, natural vitality, energy needing redirection.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Torch handle; foreground; Devil's body and wings (grayed brown).
- **Meaning:** Heavy density of material existence, grounding force of form.
- **Symbolism:** Earth, inertia, binding weight of matter.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Devil's beard; horns of man and woman; star.
- **Meaning:** Purity and Spirit endure even in apparent bondage.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit unconditioned, innocence hidden in shadow.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and faces (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of illusion and also of liberation.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit embodied in limitation.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Puffs of smoke beneath torch.
- **Meaning:** Mist of illusion, veiling hidden wisdom.
- **Symbolism:** Concealment, illusion, the transient veil of ignorance.

⚪ Steel (Blue-Gray) – Tempered Will

- **Areas:** Rings and chains.
- **Meaning:** Apparent bondage, yet loose and easily cast off when will awakens.
- **Symbolism:** False limitations, self-imposed restraint, power of release.

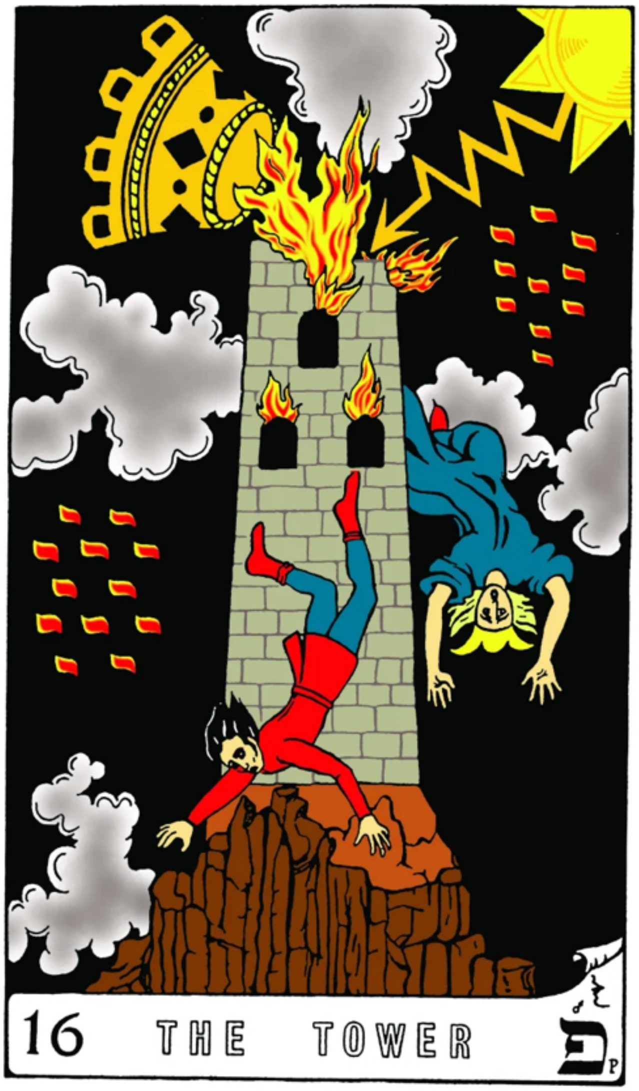
🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Cross on Devil's navel; grapes on woman's tail; Devil's eyes; flame highlights.
- **Meaning:** Fiery desire and passion distorted into bondage, yet the same force that fuels liberation when transmuted.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, energy, transformative fire.

When attainment comes, the devil shall be cast into the fire of the Lake of Divine Understanding.

This occurs as the individual casts his own negative tendencies into the fire, along with outgrown encumbrances of his past. Huge empty bundles of anxiety, needless burdensome attachments, negative emotions, all are tossed into the consuming flame.

As they disintegrate, the devil which they perpetuated dissolves with them, and man moves out, free to rise in consciousness. The encumbrances that have bound his feet to earthly clay are gone, along with the impostor, so man is free to serve his true Lord.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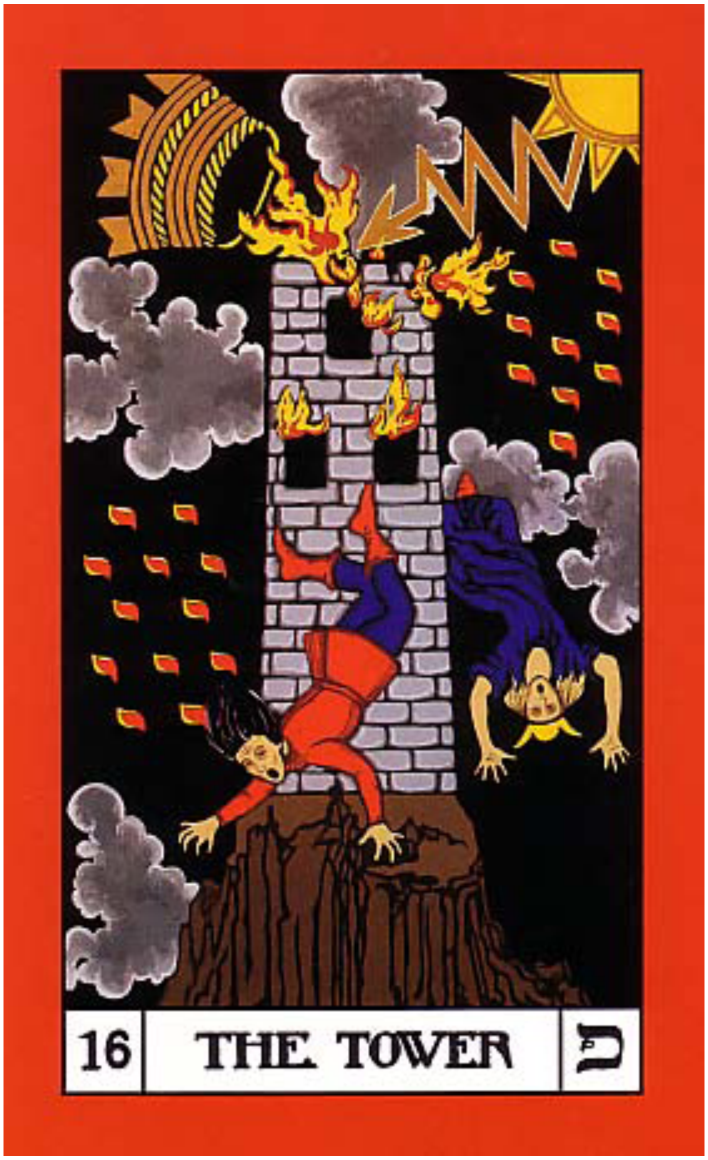
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Key 16
THE TOWER

Letter P Peh - Mouth

> *As the lightning comes from the East and shines as far as the West, so will the coming of the Son of Man*. Matthew 24:27

The letter Peh, meaning "mouth," is drawn just like the letter Kaph, "closed hand," except that a small tongue has been added. It is as though Peh gives utterance to that which was comprehended by Kaph.

Indeed, it is out of the storm clouds of Key 10 that the lightning-flash of Truth comes forth to destroy all false boundaries and beliefs. The wheels which were set in motion by Kaph may be considered as the winding of a clock; and here in The Tower, the time comes for the alarm to ring-just as you had intended.

From the Wheel of Fortune, in the direction of west and sunset, at the pay-period of the day, have clouds floated around to the north, the direction of The Tower and the unknown. Here comes a delayed reward out of the darkest hour.

The function of this Key is Spiritual Awakening. But the spiritual flash of Truth which says you must rise now, is not much more appealing at first than the call to get out of bed. When it is still dark and cold outside, the desire is strong to pull the blankets over your head and doze a while longer. In the same way, the new aspirant on the Path has spiritual lapses at first until the Light grows constant and no longer comes in spasmodic flashes.

This Key depicts the second stage of spiritual development, or the stage of waking from the nightmare of delusion depicted by The Adversary. As long as dreams remain pleasant, man is content to enjoy their illusions, regardless of how fleeting or unfounded they are; and as long as Life serves him up ease and material goods according to his fancy, he finds no reason to seek beyond the level of his body and brain.

But dreams can only last so long, and it is time for him to arise and get busy with his own development and that of his fellows. Then a vicious nightmare may be just the thing needed to startle him awake into reality and to make him glad to rise. He eventually becomes grateful - both for being free of the terror, and for the nightmare itself, which set him free from fanciful delusions.

In the same way, you are reluctantly grateful to the person who strips off the blankets and forces you to rise, to enjoy the sunshine of reality. For your dreams have been unbearable delusions brought about by Adam's fall into the realm of sense where the devil tried the old "world." What relief to know it was false and that you are free, even though to the average man, this unreality is all he believes in.

The "eye" of Ayin enabled us to receive visual impressions. Now the "mouth" of Peh makes possible our expression of them. While in spiritual darkness, one gathered impressions and founded opinions on things seen in the realms of sense, depicted here by the earthly-brown foundation on which the structure is built, of the same color as The Adversary. But now the tongue is to be tamed - that "unruly member" spoken of in the Book of James, Chapter 3.

The crown being toppled is the false crown of material attainment. Mankind has here come a great way and attained considerable success from an earthly standpoint; but "what profiteth a man if he gains the whole world, and lose his own soul?" The old world must pass away to make room for the new.

The house in this Key was founded upon earthly premises and the attempt was to build from earth to heaven instead of from heaven to earth, just as the Tower of Babel attempted to storm heaven's gates by building an earthly structure up to a far-off God instead of preparing the temple of his own vehicle fit to hold the indwelling God already there.

The man here reverses the colors of The Suspended Man, and exchanges Illumination for the dark locks of ignorance. The woman equally misdirects the purity of The High Priestess and has exchanged the receptive lunar silver of her crown for one of the same shape but colored only with the yellow aspect of her own thinking.

It seems that after their Fall, they not only clothed themselves to hide their bodies, but separated themselves from their neighbors to the extent that everything appeared as their opponents. That wall of separation is itself a lie and must be I brought down so that man can be a brother to his fellow man.

What structures have been built up by the mouth of man! What corruptions of Truth* where false interpretation and the adulteration of personal opinion has been added to the teaching of the ages. And each sect has sought to build a wall about his own beliefs, claiming to hold all of Truth to themselves.

The Path of this Key is called The Exciting Intelligence, whereby is created the spirit of every creature under the Supreme Orb. Mars is called the root of other powers, its exciting influence that which gives the initial impulse to various actions.

Mars, which rules this Key, is a fiery planet, even to the extent of appearing red in the heavens. It's symbolic color is also red. It is a symbol of great energy, of aggression, and both muscular and masculine activity. Its course can be traced through the Tarot Keys beginning from Aries, Mars-ruled, in Key 4, with its function of sight and order.

In Key 13 Scorpio, co-ruled by Mars, brought about the end of physical manifestation as applied to generation and regeneration.

In Key 15, Capricorn finds Mars exalted and sight is again exalted, but superficially so. Superficial sight had carried man as far as it could - too far in fact, as in the case of Paul, who over-zealously defended the words of the Pharisaic Hebrew law in which he had been educated.

Then came the searing flash of realization which blinded and threw him to earth. And he heard the words of Christ Jesus, through the voice of Spirit, speaking to him from the heavens. In one moment, the structure of centuries was for Paul broken. And he was alone, blind, reversed in belief, not knowing where next to turn.

The couple here, the conscious and subconscious minds, also built up a tower based on the sayings of man, of laws, and letters of the law. There are twenty-two rows of masonry depicted, one for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet; and they have used these both to define and imprison themselves within the narrow strictures of their self-imposed beliefs and tenets which they have considered immutable. These bricks are not composed of the stone of Truth, but of the clay of Adam, digged from the material earth and mixed with the mortar of man's thought.

Outside The Tower are twenty-two flames, representing the spirit of the Word. "For the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." (11 Corinthians 3: 6) The words which come through the intellect, the opinions or interpretations of man, are of the letter; but the words which God speaks to or through us are Spirit. They are alive and life-giving.

When these words of Spirit enter our lives, the fire that is in them destroys the outworn cliches by which we have been surrounding ourselves. These are formed like Yods, the creative flame of God, which is the basis of the flame alphabet used to bring forth Truth teachings.

Qabalists believe that the components out of which God formed the world were the ten basic numbers, whereas twenty-two Hebrew letters make up the speech whereby He uttered creation into being - the total called the Thirty-Two Paths of Wisdom.

Seeing correctly must precede speaking correctly because thought and speech are merely superficial until true perception comes. The wagging tongue must be silenced; for, as the Bible says, "In that day, you shall give account for every idle word you speak." Remember, the Word is creative. God created the world through the Word and made man in His Image. The yods at left show a "seeded" figure eight, or a double hexagon. The formation at right is shaped like a Venus symbol and is also formed in the manner of the ten Sephiroth of the Tree of Life.

By the time of Jesus, the old Mosaic laws had long "laid upon men burdens harder than they could bear," as the authorities added layer upon layer of interpretation, each brick mixed with the clay of their own personalities and opinions. The lightning Flash here refers to that mentioned in the Book of Formation: "The appearance of the ten spheres out of no- thing is like a flash of lightning, being without end. His Word is in them when they emanate, and when they return." It is called Mezla, or the Holy Influence, which descends from Kether to establish the Ten Sephiroth. And if you follow its course, it will be seen to zigzag throughout the Ten Sephiroth in the order they are placed on the Tree of Life.

Lightning, like Mars, is a masculine symbol. It was anciently stated, "The agriculturists call the lightning the fertilizer of the waters and so regard it." It proceeds here from a solar disk, showing its source to be the Sun. It also represents the inner occult forces shown by the serpent in Key 10, the Cosmic vital electricity. Zn both Key 6 and 10, the serpent is shown on the north side of the picture. Also, the dark pillar and sphinx are located on the north side of Keys 2 and 7.

The fear of the unknown has often caused man to selfishly isolate himself, to nest down into a crystallized structure of false security, thinking if he ignores the darkness, it will go away. The darkness of the unknown indicates that which is outside man's realm of experience, he tried to shut out that which he did not understand.

North is symbolically the place of greatest darkness, since the sun never shines there (in the northern hemisphere). The idea of strength and severity is associated with north, for those powers veiled in darkness, the occult forces, are those which emerge to lead one to liberation and enlightenment.

The lightning which once struck terror to men's hearts has now been harnessed as the great liberating power of electricity, one of the gifts of Aquarius. As stated by the wise men of old, "Out of the north comes splendor."

In older French versions, this Key was called La Maison Dieu, or the House of God. It is built on a lonely peak to demonstrate isolation from others. As a vertical cliff or precipice this is distinguished from the promontory, or headland, on which The Fool is standing. The root of the word promontory is *prominere*, "to project," while the root word for "precipice" signifies "climbing up."

Alchemically, the tower represents the athanor, the vessel wherein the work of the alchemist takes place, and where base metals are transmuted to gold.

Key 16
THE TOWER

Attributions:

Double Letter: Key 16 - P Peh Grace & Sin Mars

To this Key is attributed the stage of spiritual unfoldment called *Awakening*, because it represents the flash of dear vision which reveals to the searcher the true nature of his being which has previously been hidden from him because of the bondage of his consciousness. The tower is the structure of error and ignorance, which is struck by the lightning of Spiritual Comprehension emanating from the central sun of Truth, or *Pure Being*. The crown which is knocked from the top of the tower is will-power. But it is a false crown, for it represents personal will, which has no existence in reality. Right knowledge begins with the flash of comprehension that reveals .to us the true nature of Will, as symbolized in the 9th Key. Hence what is really over-thrown is the delusion that we exist as separate personalities, which delusion is the cause of all human suffering and limitation. The falling figures are the two modes of personal consciousness, generally called self-consciousness and subconsciousness. The flash of *Superconsciousness* turns all of our conceptions of personal consciousness upside down and utterly destroys these false conceptions. The 22 Yods represent the 22 basic modes of consciousness symbolized by the 22 TAROT KEYS.

Aspect of Consciousness: Awakening
The destruction of error. The lightning flash of inspiration from above which gives one a momentary glimpse of the Truth (however uncomfortable that may be). This is also the second stage of spiritual unfoldment, where the individual experiences a Spiritual Awakening. It has been described as a "series of sudden, fitful inspirations [leading] to the perception that the structure of knowledge built on [...] the fallacy of personal separateness is a tower [of falsehood]. At this stage, the advancing seeker of wisdom suffers the destruction of his whole former philosophy. The whole structure of the tower is an elaboration of superficial observation, traditional race thought, false reasoning, and an erroneous theory of will."

Hebrew Name: Peh (mouth)
"Peh" means "the mouth as the organ of speech." It therefore symbolizes the projective power of words. Words (both internal and external speech) can be used to maintain a false structure of separatist thinking, or they can be used as a weapon to destroy structures of thinking and feeling.

As a double letter, Peh is attributed to Grace & Sin, "because the issues of life, directed by human speech, result in one or the other. Sin, or 'missing the mark,' results in maladjustment and ugliness. Hitting the mark in right action results in the manifestation of beauty."

Letter P, or F, or Ph is in Hebrew PEH, which means "mouth," when used as the organ of speech. As a number Peh is equivalent to 80.
The letter Peh is formed like a letter Kaph, with a tongue inserted.

Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man, but what comes out of the mouth -- this defiles a man."

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Exciting Intelligence
Peh "stirs up activity, sets things going, produces changes, effects transformations." "The process of destroying our old, false concepts regarding personal will and separation excites us into more positive activities, and for this reason, [Peh] is assigned to the Path of Return known as the Exciting Intelligence."

Astrological Correspondence: Mars
Astrologically, the planet Mars, whose color red indicates its fiery nature.

"According to astrologers, the Mars vibration is scientific and is active in sight. It is the force which finds expression in reproduction, and it gives tonicity to the muscles, being thus the basis of all human activity. In its psychological manifestations it is the destructive, iconoclastic force which tears down the structures of ancient custom and tradition"

Mars also "relates to those actions we take to express our desires, or drives. Without reliance on the Divine Will, we feel the burden of accomplishment lies solely upon the personality, and anxiety, fears and worries will sweep in regarding our tomorrows. These insecurities awaken our sense of isolation, [causing] us to dwell in bondage. [Thus,] our deluded actions create storm after storm until the lightning flash finally shatters these false securities. Once Mars has destroyed the false, it is free to express and put into action the plans of the One Will. When we strive to become harmonious with the Larger Will, our activities reflect and express the force of the Divine Plan. Harmony with the One Will enables us to accomplish whatever needs to be done with a minimum of "storm-like" activity, and with a maximum of assurance in the desired outcome."

Mars rules Aries (Key 4, The Emperor) - He who puts in order does so by seeing and destroying that which is in error. Mars also rules Scorpio (Key 13, Death) - Sex and Death are ruled by the phallic procreative force of Mars. Mars is exalted in Capricorn (Key 15, The Devil) - The fiery Mars energy finds its highest expression in the destruction of error and bondage.

Number: 16
The power of 6 acting through the agency of 1. Discrimination acting through self-consciousness. Seeing clearly and truly discerning the reality which is present, is destructive to error, egotism and all thinking based upon the falsehood of

separation. Discriminating action is the lightning bolt which destroys, in order to set a right.

Key 16 - The Second step of Spiritual Unfoldment deals with Spiritual Awakening.
Path of Wisdom 27 is called the "Natural or Exciting Intelligence. Through it is consummated and perfected the nature of every existent being under the orb of the sun, in perfection."

Color / Note: Red / C

Key 16 – The Tower

Hebrew Letter: Peh (פ) – “Mouth” 👄
- פ Peh means *Mouth* — symbol of speech, utterance, and the power of the Word.
- Represents the force of vibration released in language, breaking down old forms to clear the way for renewal.
- As a Double Letter, Peh governs Mars, the fiery planet of force, conflict, and purification.

English Equivalent / Value: P = 80
- Seventeenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 80 = magnitude, expansion, force of expression.
- Peh as mouth = the opening from which Spirit speaks and acts.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Exciting Intelligence
- Called the intelligence of renewal through motion and upheaval.
- The power that awakens, shakes, and transforms by force.

Aspect of Consciousness: Speech / Utterance / Purification by Fire
- Faculty of the mouth — word, breath, proclamation.
- The Tower symbolizes the breaking down of pride and false structures through the voice of Spirit.
- Consciousness here is awakened by sudden illumination, the thunderclap of truth.

Astrology: Planet Mars ♂ — Day: Tuesday (Tiw’s Day)
- Mars = force, rupture, energy, purification through conflict.
- Planet of courage, destruction, and the power to clear away the obsolete.
- Represents the lightning-strike of truth shattering illusions.

Polarity: Grace ↔️ Indignation
- Grace = acceptance of purification.
- Indignation = resistance to truth, pride broken down by force.

Seasonal Associations:
- Associated with fiery crises that bring renewal.
- The storm before clarity and peace.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔴 Red
- Red = fire, passion, force, and purification.
- Symbolizes the searing flame of Spirit breaking down obstacles.

Musical Note: 🎵 C
- Resonates with fiery vibration, shock, and renewal.

Path on the Tree: 27th Path
- Connects Netzach (Victory) → Hod (Splendor).
- Called the Exciting Intelligence — awakens change through upheaval.
- Represents the thunderbolt of Spirit illuminating both victory and splendor.

Cube of Space: North Face
- Peh rules the Cube's north face — the storm front of purification.
- Represents the mouth of Spirit speaking in thunder and fire.

Alchemy / Metal: Iron ⛓️ (Mars)
- Strong, forceful, transformative through fire.
- Represents the breaking of forms to release new strength.

Attributions:

The Scene: A tower on a lonely peak is struck by lightning, knocking off its crown, setting it ablaze, and causing the fall of a clothed man and woman.

The Tower: The tower is a structure of human speech. "It is reared on a lonely peak and suggests the fallacy of personal isolation which is the basis of all false philosophy." It is also a phallic symbol of (false) personal will and false pride. "The tower has the same basic meaning as the garden of the Magician, the throne of the Emperor, the turning Wheel, the field in Key 13. It is subconsciousness, considered as the root-substance which takes form, first as mental images, and ultimately as physical things. From moment to moment, throughout all time, it is being transformed. It is the Prakriti of the Hindus." The tower also represents how we use words (& thoughts) to try and protect ourselves from hurt by building walls which separate ourselves from others. The three widows in the tower are symbolic of sight (K4-Emperor) and represent the means by which light can enter (and energize the tower) and the means by which those in the tower see outward. Being three in number, they likely represent the three aspects of the individuality as a vehicle for experience and expression (Tiphareth-Netzach-Hod). Placed in the lonely tower, they represent the restricted view and limited vitality of the personality which is steeped in the falsehood of isolation and personal will.

The Crown: "The materialistic notion that matter and form are the ruling principles of existence", and also to the "false interpretation of will which makes it something personal, something which may be set against the impulse originating in the cosmic purpose."

Thunderbolt: Drawn in the shape of the Qabalistic diagram, The Tree of Life, "the lightning flash symbolizes a sudden, momentary glimpse of truth, a flash of inspiration which breaks down structures of ignorance and false reasoning [...] The lightning-flash is the power drawn from above by the Magician. It is the sword of the Charioteer, the scepter of the Emperor, the force which turns the Wheel of Fortune, the scythe of Death, and the light streaming from the Hermit's lantern. It breaks down existing forms in order to make room for new ones."

"As the lightning comes from the east, and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." Matthew 24:27.

Storm Clouds: Symbolic of Jupiter, God of thunder, lightning, clouds & rain. The lightning bolt which strikes down our error is a natural consequence of the law of cause and effect (Key 10-Jupiter). Our separatist thinking builds a tower of false knowledge which acts as a lightning rod for God's correcting grace.

Man & Woman: The falling figures correspond to self-consciousness (male) and subconsciousness (female) and are the same figures as the chained man and woman of Key 15 (The Devil). They are clothed, because in false, separatist thinking, they are neither aware of each other, nor are they in harmony with each other. "They fall headfirst, because the sudden influx of spiritual consciousness represented by the lightning flash completely upsets all our old notions about the relations between subconsciousness and self-consciousness. [The woman is crowned, because] in false knowledge, subconscious motives are permitted to dominate the personality. Thus, people excuse themselves for unintelligent action by saying "I can't help it; that's the way I feel." The narrow minded, rigid (materialistic, separatist) ways of thinking symbolized here are caused by either "too much ego and intellect (the falling male), or an unmanageable amount of emotion and desire (the falling female)."

The Yods: Twenty-two flaming yods, corresponding to the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet representing the forces of the elements, planets, and the Zodiac. "They hang in the air to suggest that the forces they symbolize rest on no 'physical' foundation." They suggest that the physical, material world depends upon the spiritual (the yods), and not the other way around.

The 22 yods falling as tongues of flame, like the Holy Spirit descending on the Apostles, represent the 22 living Yods of the Spirit of the Word as opposed to the 22 levels of brick (not stone) which comprise the tower, or the "letter of the word." "For the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life."

A glimpse of the Sun flashes from out of the ignorance of the veiled unknown, bringing the impact of the Christ force (shown as lightning). Herewith comes the first perception of Truth.

Its blinding flash removes the worldly viewpoint so drastically as to seem at first terrible, breaking down all the crystallizations of erroneous belief, and accumulated conditions from the past and removing the scales from one's vision.

Yet this awakening is wonderful in that it ends the dream of separation from God and brings one near to the Path of Return. By leveling the false edifice of self-separation, it makes way for the better Way.

The crown is a false one, representing material achievement; it is the usurper's crown of self-will, representing a false kingdom that declares matter and form as its gods.

Both the conscious mind (the man) and subconscious mind (the woman) must readjust to the Truth, having been clothed in the unfitting garments of concealment, and crowned with false knowledge.

The arrow-head shape of the lightning bolt resembles an ancient symbol for Beth (house). "Except the Lord build the house, he labors in vain that buildeth it."

The building constructed of human error and ignorance, miscreated by wrong words and thoughts must fall. The tongue, Mars-like, is aggressive. Though rash speech can be destructive, words rightly directed carry the power of creation.

The Tower of Babel also had to do with using speech to gain a way to heaven, or to force a physical entrance to a spiritual realm.

While the Tower was built on a physical foundation of brown, the color of the devil's appearance-geared world, the Yods and falling figures must now depend on a superior foundation, not based on earth.

The occult force here symbolized as a bolt of lightning is the basis of inner modifications of the personal vehicle which result in enlightenment.

An old alchemical statement goes: "Gold cometh from the North." Here is the Fire. In comparing this with the previous Key -- it takes a nightmare to wake us up, at first.

The direction North is assigned to this entire Key, and the idea of North to all the dark pillars of the Tarot series, because north is the place of the absence of sun.

🎨 Key 16 – The Tower: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔴 Scarlet Red (Mars)
- **Path:** 27th Path – Netzach → Hod (Peh, פ – “Mouth”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔴 Scarlet Red
- **Meaning:** Scarlet is the fiery vibration of Mars, Peh the Mouth. It represents the eruption of Spirit through destructive force, shattering false structures and clearing the way for transformation. The Tower is both downfall and liberation, the alchemical furnace that refines the soul.
- **Symbolism:** Sudden change, destruction of illusion, liberation through fiery purification, the alchemical fire that breaks old forms.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Star; rope-like bands on crown; woman’s crown; yods (each with small red tongue at corner); small parts of flames.
- **Meaning:** Divine sparks of illumination descend amid destruction.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, divine fire hidden in judgment.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Woman’s dress; man’s hose.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters in contrast to fiery upheaval.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, balance amid change.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Lightning flash; crown (except rope bands).
- **Meaning:** Solar light breaking down the false tower, flash of divine will.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, divine energy, the judgment of truth.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Clouds (storm clouds gray with white edges).
- **Meaning:** The veil of storm concealing wisdom, dense vapor of transition.
- **Symbolism:** Mystery, hidden equilibrium, veil of change.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Cliff (grayed-brown; lighter top).
- **Meaning:** Dense foundation of earth breaking under force.
- **Symbolism:** Stability, grounding, destruction clearing foundation.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Woman’s hair.
- **Meaning:** Radiance of solar energy shining even in downfall.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, golden innocence, solar continuity.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

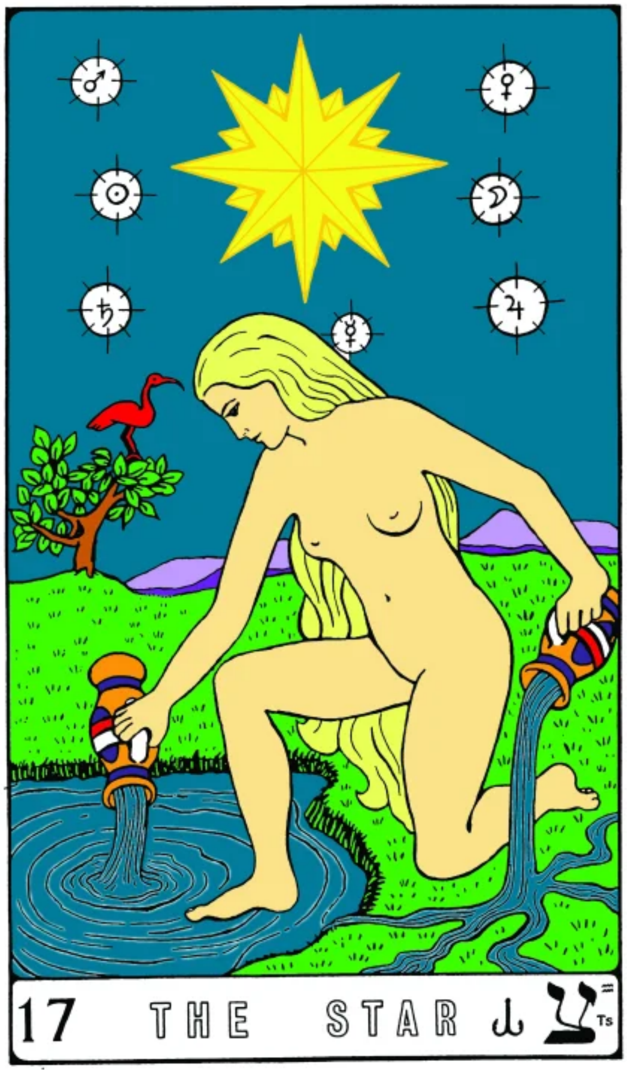
- **Areas:** Hands and faces (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel thrown into fiery transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit incarnate in upheaval.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Man’s coat and boots; woman’s shoes; flames (primarily red with yellow tips).
- **Meaning:** Fiery vitality of Mars erupting in destruction.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, energy, force breaking illusion, alchemical fire.

The crown is an emblem of victory and distinction, while the tower shows a rise above the common level, somewhat as a ladder rises from the ground. But that which is founded on earthly premise must come down, the material crown cast off when the real King speaks! The wild pursuit of selfish and egotistical ideas come to naught, and small-mindedness cannot hold the grandeur of the sun.

The athanor, or alchemists' furnace, was shown as a tower to indicate that the metamorphosis of matter implies ascent as well. Windows near the top correspond to the eyes and mind of man. Flesh colored bricks denote the image of a human a being. Its vertical structure denotes elevation and evolution.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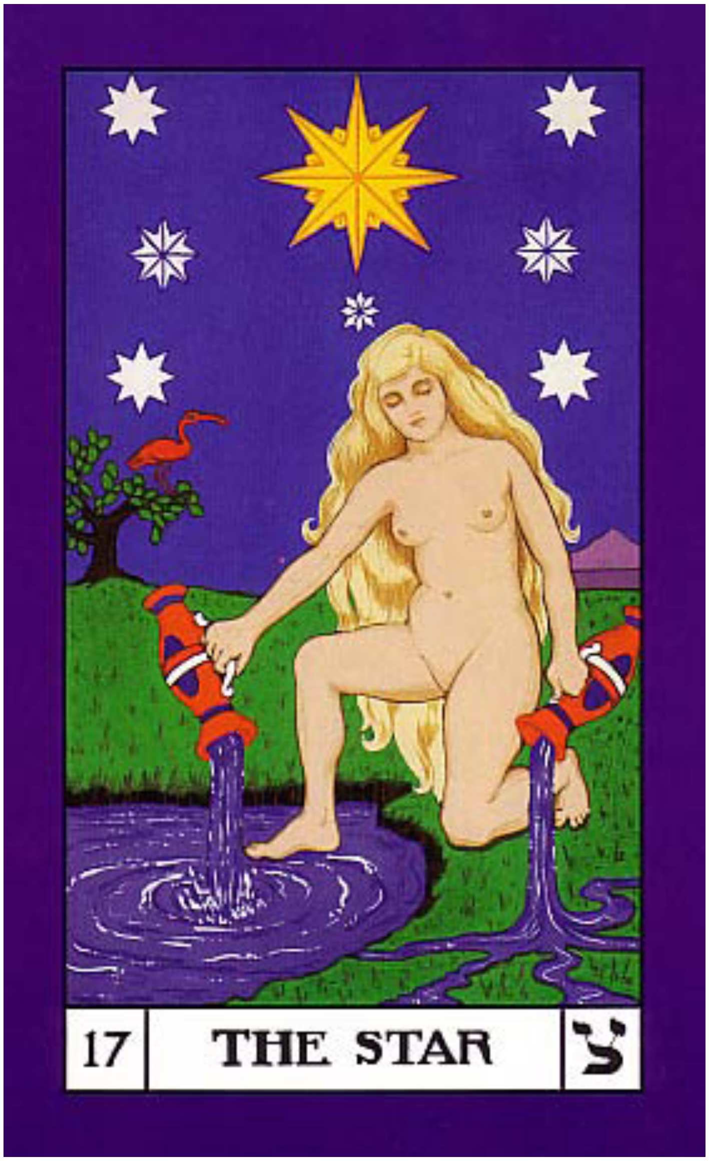
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Key 17
THE STAR

Letter Tz Tzaddi - Fishhook

The Star of meditation lea& to the birth of the Christ in you, as the focusing of solar energies transforms the vehicle to receive the Christ Force. The man and woman shown in Key 16 outside the falling Tower were the two aspects of Mind, the conscious and the subconscious. Now they are shown as twin vessels held in the hands of the Great Mother of Heaven, the original Potter of their clay. Here she is replenishing them with the Waters of Eternal Life. Their orange color is the color of the two Paths of Key 6 and Key 19.

Having had no choice but to "give up," after the recent rude awakening of Key 16, all the hard crystallizations which had been allowed to accumulate in previous times are now to be dissolved and transmuted into the transcendental Elixir of Life. The Great Awakener cannot allow the old encrustations of habit and error to remain, so they are literally washed away.

The symbol for the alchemical process of "dissolution" or dissolving is the same as the symbol used for the sign and constellation of Aquarius. This should give a clue as to the true nature of the heavenly water being poured by the Water-Bearer. The pouring out of the water refers to distilling of the essences.

The Great Mother here shown is Isis-Urania -- Isis, the earthmother goddess; Urania, meaning "the heavenly," a muse of astronomy, and sometimes-goddess. Aquarius rules, among other things, the stars and ethers of space, and is related to this Key 17.

The Truth of Being remains ever hidden from the profane, and none can remove her veils by force. But to one who has proved his worth and has reached the stage where he can be trusted with the great secrets of Nature and Creation, she reveals herself voluntarily through greater insight into her working.

What man had before thought true now shows itself as the mere folly of the unenlightened masses. But having passed the period of the storm and stress of awakening, a great stillness has come about, as the dawning new day removes the veils of darkness which were its former disguise.

I Kings 19: 1 1 and 12: "And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks . . ." and after the wind an earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire. But the Lord was in none of these. And after the fire, "a still, small Voice" . . . the Voice of the Lord in the Silence.

This Path is called The Natural Intelligence, the intelligence which overlays Nature. The beautiful Venus-Urania has long, natural-golden hair, suggestive of the magnetism of solar energies working in earth, and a symbol of natural vitality. She represents that function of the Ego which charges the subconscious with substance and vitality.

The Hebrew letter for this Key is Tzaddi, equal to Tz, Ts, or Ca. It means "fishhook," and it is here that the Lord Himself goes to work on us, baiting His Hook and biding His time. Eventually we take this Hook which the Great Fisherman drops down to us through the waters of the Great Sea of Universal Mind, the realm of the Lord's Subconscious domain, whence He hauls us up to His higher level, ready to make us at One with Him.

Meditation and Revelation are the functions of this Key. We too go fishing every time we meditate, waiting till the mind is still, then baiting the hook with a desire to know the answer to what is needed, and awaiting the nibble, the answer from within. Through meditation, the powers of the subconscious are raised to a conscious level, as the fish is lifted out of the pool.

This Key also stands for Truth, so we search in the depths of the Universal Mind-Stuff where all Truth awaits. The hook of meditation is the implement which draws the fish (Nun) up from the waters (Mem) of suspended mind, where the highest Truths are revealed.

The transforming agent of the Scorpio reproductive power represented by the Fish must be raised up in order to be used as spiritual food. Through meditation we direct solar forces and transmute energies of nerve-force. The universe itself is built and maintained by thought in the perpetual Self-recognition of the Creator.

One cannot use intellect here, in its superficial sense, but it is the intellect which decides on the quest for Truth and sets the conditions. Then it moves to the background, becoming still and watchful. The number seventeen is worthy of note here - the one for attention, and the seven for rest.

The red bird depicts an ibis, the fishing bird considered sacred to Hermes, or to Mercury, the god of intellect. His red color indicates an active quest. The scarlet Ibis is known in tropical America, but the revered bird of Egypt was actually black and white. It arrived at that season when the Nile rose each spring, heralding the time of abundance, and left when it receded. It was sometimes called Abu Hannas, or "Father John."

The tree on which it rests is shaped to represent the brain and nervous system. The green color of leaves and vegetation indicates the vast amount of growth which takes place during this, the third stage of spiritual unfoldment, helped by the processes of enlargement through imagination.

The Great Sea is another name for the Divine Mother. "God made the firmament ('Heaven') and separated the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament, and it was so."

The heavenly "waters" are not as earthly waters. Isis-Urania here stands above the level of psychic "waters" of the astral realm and balances her form by resting one foot upon it. Meditation stabilizes the psychic waters and makes them more "Solid." The Truth can only come from areas above the psychic.

When the old consciousness is transformed to bring forth the "new heaven and new earth," she pours the great gift of heavenly waters from above the firmament onto both the earth and the psychic realms. These streams of higher consciousness being poured through the vehicles representing male and female, the conscious and subconscious mind, have a transforming effect on all they touch. A stream falling onto the earth separates into five parts, and represents the five senses, one of these flowing into the pool as though to form a link between matter and soul. The other vessel pours its stream directly into the pool of inner consciousness.

Violet on the color scale refers to the sign Aquarius and to Truth. The mountain, or goal of attainment, is within view here, but less emphasized than the more immediate quest within the depths. Aquarians make good "fishers for Truth," because they like to delve deep in research to come up with results beneficial to their fellowman.

Another realm of quest is seen here, more distant than the mountain, and that is the stars of Heaven. For after the narrow selfish bonds of personal universe of Keys 15 and 16 have been bust asunder, there comes for the first time the awesome glimpse of the magnitude of Creation and the Universe. One realizes the Truth that he and his are not all there is. He sees Man, and the Brotherhood of Man, the ideal of Aquarius. And he sees not just one Sun, but countless Suns - not just one Universe, but myriad universes whirling through space.

Though he glimpses these things now, there is too much to grasp all at once. He is not "there" yet. So, he probes the depths of Inner Space in meditation, and at the same time reaches out to study the many religions, the philosophies, the recorded sayings and lives of whatever great Teachers he can contact. The sky is the limit, and he can hardly choose One Way until he has looked at them all. Having been closed for so long, once the door is open and a glimpse of the Light has been seen, he can only be satisfied with the Real thing and seeks to find it everywhere.

The stars have another meaning. The smaller white ones represent the seven psychic centers of force, each named for a planet. Called *chakras* in Sanskrit, they were known to alchemists as "interior stars."

The Great Central Star is a composite of all the Suns of which one becomes conscious now, and the combined stellar forces which concentrate to bring him upward spiritually. Comparing this with the Sun in Key 19, you will find it an earlier stage of the same Light, but smaller and less developed. It has the same eight sharp points relating to positive Solar energies, but the eight small points are only budding.

To the Wise Men, thoroughly versed in the heavenly lore, the whereabouts of the Christ child was revealed by a Star. To the man on the spiritual path, the finding of those things represented in this Key will lead him on without fail, to the Christ. But not those who use this knowledge in the employ of Herod, the king of "this world" who seeks to destroy the Christ within lest he lose his throne to this hidden threat. Wise Men know The Star and follow It alone, because they know where it leads, and they know Who the Real King is!

AN INKLING OF THE ENSTAR

Out of the dew of the evening
There came a glint of light from afar -
The light from a far-off star.

It uses the dew drop for its prism
To focus its rays on me.
Light had been traveling for centuries
Just to change some atom in me.

So never think any effort too great
If only to bring a smile -
It is always worthwhile.
Perhaps the smile won't be born
Until another morn
When there is no one to see.

Maybe it's just a word of truth that you speak
That will help some over a Mountain peak.
Be it ever so great or ever so small
Remember that words are tall.
They affect one and all.

Heard or unheard to conscious ear,
They take their effect, never fear.
So, as we stroll through this life or others,
Let us remember to try to

Be Brothers.

From Memoirs of a Mystic

Key 17
THE STAR

The Hebrew letter Tzaddi signifies a fishhook. This reference to angling is closely allied to another meaning of this Key; namely, *Meditation*. What is symbolized by the fishhook is a means of investigating the unseen, quest, research into the depths of inner consciousness, symbolized by water. Such fishing for inner knowledge is the function of meditation.

The great central Star is the symbol of the *Life Power* which is concentrated and radiated from all of the Stars in the Universe. The seven smaller stars refer to seven centers of force in the human organism, 40 called interior stars in western occultism and Chakras by the Hindus. They also refer to the men planets of astrology. The tree is the brain and nervous system. The bird on its branches is an Ibis, sacred to Hermes. Isis, or Nature, is symbolized by the kneeling woman. Her left leg supports her weight and rests upon the earth, or physical plane. The right leg maintains her balance, and rests upon the waves on the surface of the pool, thus indicating balance attained by control of vibration. The five streams of water are the five senses. *Revelation* is the stage of unfoldment attributed to Key 17.

Key 17 – The Star

Hebrew Letter: Tzaddi (צ) – “Fishhook” 🎣
- צ Tzaddi means *Fishhook* — symbol of drawing forth from the depths, pulling hidden truth into the light.
- Represents meditation and inspiration as the means of catching wisdom from the subconscious.
- A Simple Letter, Tzaddi governs Aquarius, the sign of vision, imagination, and cosmic flow.

English Equivalent / Value: Tz = 90
- Eighteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 90 = fullness, gestation of cycles, completion leading to new birth.
- Tzaddi as fishhook = the line cast into the waters of subconscious, drawing Spirit upward.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Natural Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that directs the nature of every creature.
- Represents inspiration and imagination aligning with cosmic law.

Aspect of Consciousness: Meditation / Imagination / Cosmic Flow
- Faculty of meditation — stillness that opens to inspiration.

- The Star symbolizes hope, renewal, and communion with divine currents.
- Consciousness here aligns with vision of the greater whole.

Astrology: Sign Aquarius ♒ — Jan 20–Feb 18 (Shevat / Mid-Winter)
- Aquarius = humanitarian vision, imagination, cosmic inspiration.
- Ruled by Saturn ♄ (traditional) and Uranus ♅ (modern) — structure and innovation combined.
- Represents the pouring out of spiritual waters for collective renewal.

Polarity: Grace ↔️ Indignation
- Grace = receptivity to inspiration, openness to vision.
- Indignation = refusal to receive or distortion of the cosmic flow.

Seasonal Associations:
- Mid-winter — vision of renewal beneath stillness, promise of new life to come.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟣 Violet
- Violet = vision, imagination, and inspiration.
- Color of mystery, spirituality, and cosmic harmony.

Musical Note: 🎵 A♯ / B♭
- Resonates with imaginative vibration, opening consciousness to cosmic currents.

Path on the Tree: 28th Path
- Connects Netzach (Victory) → Yesod (Foundation).
- Called the Natural Intelligence — path of imagination and cosmic meditation.
- The Star = the outpouring of Spirit renewing the foundation of life.

Cube of Space: South Above Edge
- Tzaddi rules the Cube's south-above edge — high vision streaming into manifestation.
- Represents the fishhook pulling divine current downward, pouring out cosmic waters.

Alchemy / Metal: Lead ⚫ (Saturn) / Uranium ⚛️ (Uranus)
- Saturn = structure, endurance; Uranus = sudden vision, inspiration.
- Together symbolize the balance of form and freedom in vision.

Attributes:

Simple Letter: Key 17 Tz Tzaddi Star Meditation

Aspect of Consciousness: Revelation
The unveiling of truth which is the result of meditation. Meditation is simply a focused concentration upon a subject that is of definite interest to us. Meditation which is consciously undertaken in order to attain greater wisdom and understanding, however,

requires a few additional things such as: universal tolerance, brotherly love for humanity, and of consciousness expanded beyond the strictly personal.
This is also the third stage of spiritual unfoldment. "It is the calm which follows the storm depicted by Key 16. It is a period of quest and search. "

Hebrew Name: Tzaddi (fish hook)
Tzaddi means fishhook, "signifying that which draws the fish (Nun-Key13) out of the water (Mem-Key 12). The water is reflected, personal existence, symbolized by the Hanged Man. It is also, in a sense, the ocean of [the universal subconscious]. The fish symbolizes transforming and reproductive power." Tzaddi thus indicates the activity of raising up the reproductive force (the raising of the Kundalini energy in meditation) and of tapping into a well-spring of knowledge out of the waters of subconsciousness.

"Meditation is the function attributed to Tzaddi. It has been defined as "an unbroken flow of knowledge in a particular object." It is a fishing for truth in the depths of subconsciousness"

Letter Tz, Ts, or Cz. In Hebrew it is Tzaddi, meaning "Fishhook," a tool for angling. Numerically, Tzaddi is the term for 90.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Natural Intelligence
Meditation (mental concentration upon some object) is natural. Desire naturally expresses itself through meditation. In Hebrew "natural" means "to-sink". "The connection with the fish-hook, which must be dropped in water to catch the fish, is obvious."[4] Thus, we do not need to learn *how* to meditate. What we need to learn what we've been doing *with* our powers of meditation.

Astrological Correspondence: Aquarius
Aquarius, an airy, fixed sign, is attributed to Tzaddi. "It is represented by the Man among the "living creatures" of Ezekiel and the Apocalypse. Its astrological symbol is shown on the Wheel of Fortune, two wavy lines, one above the other. This is also an alchemical symbol for dissolution, and we have already seen that solution is one of the ideas connected with the symbol of the fishhook. " Chemically, to dissolve places matter in solution in a liquid medium, thus allowing the desired essence to be extracted via precipitation (making solid again). This is analogous to meditation, where the problem (or subject of meditation) is dissolved in the waters of subconsciousness so that the essential principle or essence may be extracted (by the fishhook). Aquarius, ruler of stars and the heavens. Its symbol is the same one used for alchemical dissolution, or the reducing of substance to its primal matter. It also rules electricity and lightning. Ruler is Uranus, planet of Key 0, the Fool. Color of Aquarius on the Wheel is violet.

> *"Ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free."*

Number: 17
The power of 7 acting through the agency of 1. Receptivity to Divine Will in

action. When we meditate, all sense of separation between the meditator and the object of meditation dissolves, and it is us who is being meditated by the One. Meditation means learning how to get out of the way so that meditation can occur *through us* as an instrument for the One who continually meditates ALL into existence. The eternal truth that we of our (false, illusory, separate) self, do nothing. Meditation is the activity by which this is ultimately revealed to us. Also since 17 reduces to 8, meditation shows the means "whereby knowledge of the Great Secret is attained."

Key 17 represents the third stage of spiritual unfoldment. Functions of the Key are Meditation, and Revelation, finding the Truth.

Path of Wisdom 28, is called the Natural, or Active Intelligence: "Thence is created the spirit of every creature of the supreme orb, and the activity or motion to which they are subject." (It1 some versions, this Path has been omitted.)

Color / Note: Violet / A#

The Scene: A nude woman gazes into the water, solidifying it as she pours water from two vases.

Bird & Bush: The red Ibis is related to the Magician and is perched at rest on a tree which symbolizes the brain and nervous system. This symbolizes the act of using concentration to bring intellectual activity to rest in order to meditate properly. When we stop thinking so hard, Truth unveils herself to us.

Woman: She is Mother Nature, Isis who unveils herself to us through meditation. She represents Truth revealed. "The nude woman of Key 17 is freed from the materialistic identifications represented by the clothing of the two figures in Key 16. She dwells under the canopy of the stars, open to the revelations of the cosmos [so that she] may now experience Truth."

She is the High Priestess, The Empress, and the woman in Key 8, who tames the red lion. Meditation utilizes deduction and imagination. "The knowledge gained from meditation is gleaned from the record of memory of nature, symbolized by the scroll of the High Priestess [...] Meditation develops specific powers, and it does this by controlling the animal forces in human personality, as pictured in Key 8."[10]
"Sensations derived from physical forms are the main support of meditation (weight on bent knee on earth), but these are balanced by experience gained direct from subconsciousness (balances on her right foot)." Note that her right foot balances *on* the water. In meditation the normally fluidic and unstable waters of consciousness are given stability. In alchemy this is known as of the "fixation of the volatile."

The two Vases: Represent the Subconscious and Self-Conscious. A stream falls from her right hand (self-conscious) vase and sets up ripples in the pool, showing that mediation stimulates the subconscious. From her left hand vase a stream falls to the ground and splits into five streams representing the five senses. Meditation leads to the perfection and purification of the five senses.

Pool: "Universal consciousness, or reservoir of cosmic mind-stuff, which is stirred into vibration by the act of meditation. This is indicated by the water flowing from the right pitcher [...] The stream flowing from the other pitcher indicates that meditation also modifies sensation (5 senses, 5 streams) and unfolds higher and subtler types of sense experience."

Yellow Star: A symbol of Spirit, which manifests as the Solar energy from the fixed stars of the universe. "Meditation modifies and transmutes the personal expression of this cosmic energy." It also stands for the Quintessence of the alchemists.

The seven "interior stars" or chakras. They are also the "metals" of alchemy and the seven holy interior planets of esoteric astrology. These correspondences are:

Tarot Key: The Star

"Where Key 16 is filled with darkness, action and destruction, Key 17 is filled with quiet, peace and profound beauty [...] If we are to experience true peace, we must undergo the destruction of our false towers of isolation." Study of this tarot key helps one to develop greater receptivity to the Truth.

The background is blue, for the starlit night holds no more darkness. On the contrary, after the Awakening, Truth begins to reveal itself.

The Central Star is symbolic of solar energy, concentrated and radiated from all stars in the universe. All the stars are 8-pointed to show the power of radiant energy. The secondary half-points or budding potential of the 'large Star will be fully developed in Key 19.

The smaller stars represent the planets, or the seven different energies of the chakras.

A red ibis, or fishing bird, relates to the meaning of the letter Tzaddi. It is an Egyptian Bird, sacred to Hermes, or Mercury. In meditation one baits a hook to search the "waters" of universal subconsciousness.

The "seas" of Mem, Key 12, provides a field of operation for Tzaddi, fishhook.

In fishing, one must first silence the superficial activity of the thinking processes, which, however, supervise the activity like the ibis.

The tree by its shape represents the brain and nervous centers.

The woman is Isis-Urania, or unveiled Truth -- the veil of
ignorance removed in rare moments of revelation through meditation. Man cannot unveil her. Only those prepared to behold Reality can discern Truth.

She kneels partially on the firm foundation of facts, of earth; and the other foot rests firmly on the foundation of the subconscious.

The two vases stand for self-consciousness and subconsciousness. Ellipses are zeros, for No-Thing. The stream flowing from these is used to stir up the Greater Subconsciousness. The stream on land falls into five parts for purification of the five senses. She lifts the vases.

The mountain, colored violet for Aquarius, shows perfection of the Great Work, and final achievement of alchemical practice.

Meditation is the safest method of regeneration drawing up nerve force from the centers, without direct concentration on them.

> "We have seen his Star in the East . . ." THE STAR OF MEDITATION DIRECTS US TO THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD WITHIN OURSELVES.

🎨 Key 17 – The Star: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟣 Violet (Aquarius)
- **Path:** 28th Path – Netzach → Yesod (Tzaddi, צ – “Fishhook”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟣 Violet
- **Meaning:** Violet is the vibration of Aquarius, sign of vision, hope, and revelation. It is the highest visible color vibration, blending red’s vitality with blue’s spiritual depth. The Star shines in this radiant field, pouring forth the waters of life.
- **Symbolism:** Revelation, renewal, vision, the outpouring of Spirit into creation.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Large central star.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity and divine radiance at the heart of vision.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, guiding light of Spirit.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Grass, leaves of tree.
- **Meaning:** Fertility and harmony of Nature beneath starlight.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, renewal, harmony of life.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Background; water in pool and pouring from vases; vase ovals and neck stripes (deeper blue).
- **Meaning:** Flow of subconscious waters, cosmic reflection.
- **Symbolism:** Memory, reflection, flowing vitality of Spirit.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Mountain range and foothills.
- **Meaning:** Spiritual authority and sovereignty, distant peaks of higher truth.
- **Symbolism:** Spiritual power, revelation, higher truth.

🟠 Orange – Vital Force of Splendor

- **Areas:** Vases (except stripes, ovals, handles).
- **Meaning:** Radiant vessels of energy, fiery containers of water.
- **Symbolism:** Splendor, vitality, receptacles of divine current.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Seven smaller stars; vase and top stripe on right vase oval; lower stripe on left vase; water highlights.
- **Meaning:** Spirit's brilliance shining through stars and water.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, unity, Spirit's unconditioned radiance.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of the waters of Spirit.
- **Symbolism:** Universal humanity, Spirit embodied in renewal.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Tree trunk.
- **Meaning:** Stability of Earth grounding the vision.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, natural support, endurance.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Hair.
- **Meaning:** Radiance of solar innocence, vitality pouring forth.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, abundance, golden light.

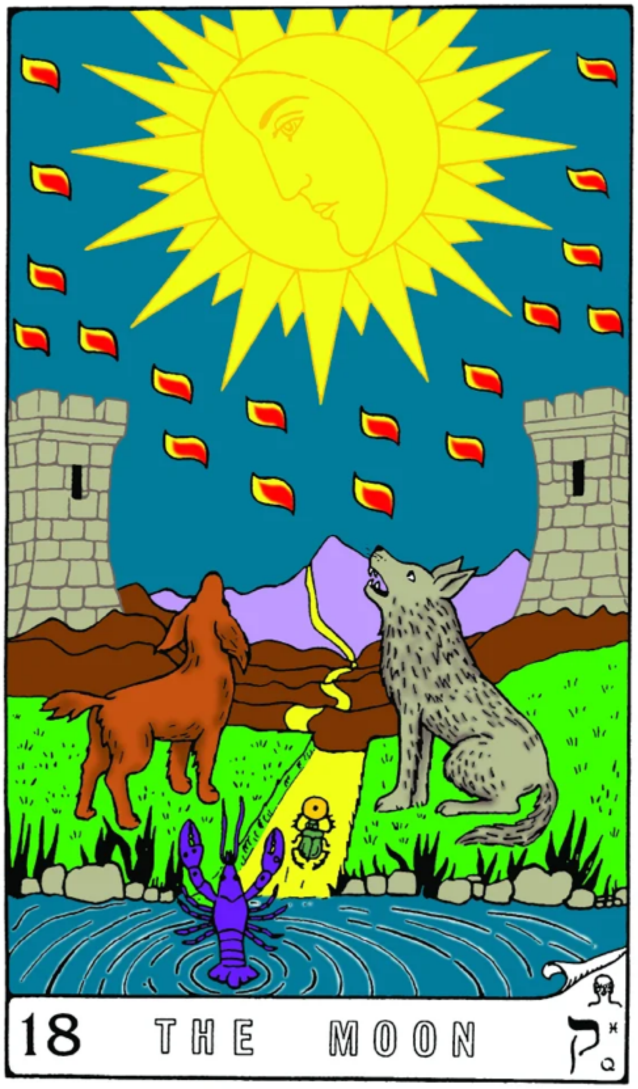
🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

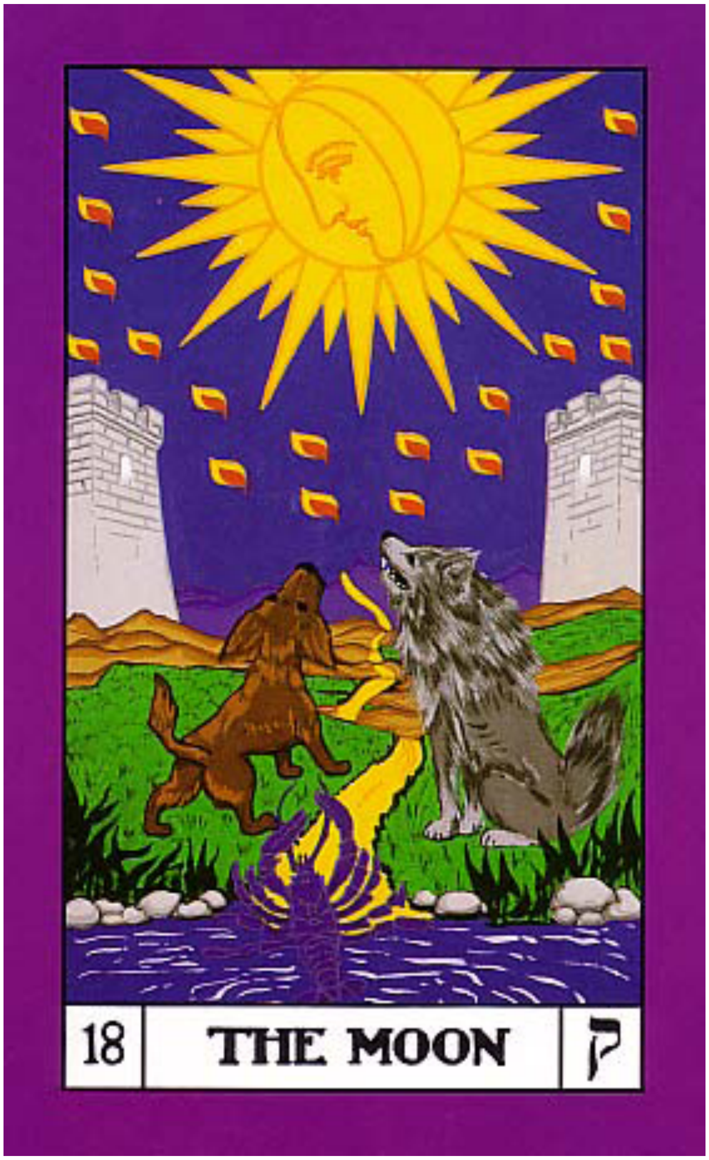
- **Areas:** Ibis bird; top band over oval on left vase; lower band over oval on right vase.
- **Meaning:** Generative passion and fiery energy complementing water’s flow.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, action, generative force of renewal.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance (optional ink highlights)

- **Areas:** Inside large star; lightning streak; 7-pointed rays from white stars; water highlights.
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection crystallized in starlight and radiant waters.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, divine spark, unity of Spirit and creation.

Interior Star	Location	Alchemical Metal	Chakra
Saturn	Base of Spine	Lead	Muladhara
Mars	3 fingers below navel	Iron	Svadistthana
Jupiter	Solar Plexus	Tin	Manipura
Sun	Heart	Gold	Anahata
Venus	Throat	Copper or Brass	Visuddhi
Moon	Brow just above eyes	Silver	Ajna
Mercury	Above crown of head	Quicksilver	Sahasrara


18
THE MOON
ק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THE MOON
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Key 18
THE MOON

Letter Q Qoph - Back of Head

The Moon has risen from her seat as High Priestess to reign supreme in the heavens, during this fourth stage of spiritual unfoldment. As Priestess in Key 2, she provided the ethereal substance from which all is made but now works from a higher level to transmute this substance, so that the vehicle of man may become sufficiently spiritualized to receive the Light of Christ. As the Sun is Mediator between God and Nature, the moon mediates between Sun and Nature.

The focal point of Key 17 was the pool of Aquarius where the Water-Bearer worked to transmute pure waters; now this has become the "Wine of Pisces," (or Yesod, ninth Sephirah of the Moon) and the reduced essential of all things. Here the focus point has lifted, and the pool slips partly below the range of vision. The center of interest is the Path leading up from the home of the Crayfish, a deep freshwater crustacean, to the mountain top.

This indicates that processes of meditation as practiced in Key 17 have revealed the Eternal Way and brought us to the foot of the actual Path we are at last ready to climb. Here is the final journey "home," when man, like the Prodigal Son, "comes to himself' and realizes that the better life is with his Divine Father, back at the spiritual Source from whence he came.

He emerges from the waters here like the purple crayfish, saturated with the violet color which symbolizes Truth. As a creature out of the sea, it represents the first form of spiritually sentient life. This follows the pattern originally assumed by physical life as it came forth from the seas to evolve upon dry land. Spiritual life must at this point step gingerly out from the deeps of the subconscious, or the instinctual realm which precedes self-control, to unfold in the higher worlds.

Book of James, Chapter 3, for it is the water sign representing oceans, and it physically rules the feet which are the real Pantmakers. In the words of the song,

> *Lovely appear over the mountain*
> *The feet of them that preach*
> *And bring good news of peace.*

The foot is the symbol of the understanding soul, in its direct relationship with earth. The feet of the Great Ones have long traveled and have shown the way for others to follow. This path leads not to a geographical location, but to higher planes of consciousness, to the Beyond which is in reality the Source.

Pisces is the sign opposite Virgo, where the Hermit stood in Key 9 at the other end of this Path, at the mountain's top. The Hermit indicates the heights reached by Mercury or intellect, from which Wisdom holds forth the lantern of Divine Love to show the Way. But now subconscious mind and soul must climb even further out of its own element, over earth, up the mountain, and ultimately higher than intellect could go.

We have arrived at double-nine here in Key 18 and the soul, represented by the crescent moon, has risen to heights beyond those approachable by conscious mind. Here it holds a greater lantern than that lighted by the intellect, for it is directly illumined by reflection of the Sun's rays; and its Light, in turn illuminates the Path which unfolds like a shining ribbon before the Seeker on the Way.

If you bring the ends of this ribbon together and tie a knot, the Path is finished and its cycle ended, with Past being bound to Future in the Eternal Present. The Hebrew letter-word for this Key is Qoph and means "back of the head." It was originally shaped like a knot, and is equivalent to our letter Q. It seems curious that we should approach the back of the head before the front, or Face (next Key); but if you wish to approach a brilliantly lighted room, coming in out of the dark, it conditions your vision to first pass through a dimly lit foyer.

At the top of the mountain will be met the full countenance of the Sun, the Head, and the Authority, but here the approach is from the rear, for behind-the-scenes work is being done first - another Piscean function. This is the time when those forces depicted by the Moon perform the necessary operations of the body and blood of man, to ready his vehicle for the coming influx of solar power and the Light of Christ.

The goddess of previous Key 17 seems to have assumed the attitude of our Lady Moon, looking down benignly upon the work she is performing, with kind concern and steadfast attention. The fishhook of *Tzaddi* did its work and now she augments it with her 'hue" of enchantment, and magnetic attraction. As the Moon pulls the tides, she attempts to draw this Fish from its natural habitat into a high place, against its natural disposition to respond to the pull of gravity. In this sign of the Fish, she uses her dominion over the instinctual and intuitive forces to draw forth hm the Waters only that which is wholly True in man, as shown by the color violet. This is the Fruit of the Waters whose work began with The High Priestess and ends with the work of the Great Fisherman.

The higher aspects of the subconscious have risen with the Moon to a place above the earth, from which to lift others, beyond their natural level. Her magnetic powers work through close attention to the evolution of Nature and super-Nature, or the enlightenment of mankind. The towers imply terminal ends, or openings in a wall which separates the mundane from the spiritual, with the veil having been removed. But as The High Priestess guarded the sacred temple mysteries from the eyes of the profane, the Risen One is still positioned between the neutral, wisdom-gray tower-pillars to make sure that none comes to the Kingdom who is not first refined and found worthy.

This then is the place where bodies are transformed into finer and more sensitive vehicles to make sure, they can stand the influx of the Christ Light when it comes so that it will neither harm them nor fail in its purpose. Christ Light has no common meeting ground with gross, unrefined nature and there must be a breakthrough before this can happen. Actual changes must take place in the blood chemistry and certain work done toward refining the centers as well.

Universal forces help make the change into a higher type of organism that would not be possible in Nature's process of evolution. Jesus said, "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God," and it is true that a spiritual being cannot pass spirituality to his children through family blood lines, but the children of God must be transformed beings of themselves, regardless of earthly parentage.

Only one who has already passed the three previous stages is able to receive this fourth stage of spiritual attainment called Organization. That is to say, the knowledge gained by meditation as shown in the previous Key is now incorporated into the bodily organism and made part of corporeal or physical existence. Thus, the function of Key 18 is called Corporeal Intelligence or body consciousness and refers to the collective intelligence of all the cells in the body.

One cannot go through illumination until the vehicle has been transformed from its natural state, and the bodily organs must evolve to an extent which permits higher forms of conscious- ness to manifest through them. Our own desire for spiritual attainment works toward effecting a change, since any need produces some result, even in nature.

"The night brings counsel." In Job 33:15 it was said, "When deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumbering's upon the bed, then He openeth the ears of men and sealeth their instruction, that he may withdraw man from his purpose and hide pride from man."
It is during sleep that our active mentality is stilled, and the subconscious mind is given free reign to mature the thoughts of the day. It is also a time of rest in which to recuperate from strenuous physical activity, in order that the cells may be repaired and strength renewed.

Some of the physical changes necessary to spiritual unfoldment involves changes in blood chemistry and cell structure. These processes are controlled by subconscious activity. The Yods falling from the sky like raindrops are colored red and yellow to indicate that a vital life force is present in the blood along with the elements of its chemical composition. This depicts the descent of life Force by the Will of God into bodily conditions, somewhat as Spirit manifesting.

The phase of the Moon is shown increasing on the positive or "Mercy" side of the Tree of Life. Before complete realization, the Life-Power molds bodies without their conscious knowledge, but later one may consciously share in the Work.

The Work of the Moon is represented as the solar radiance reflecting into the personal sphere of activity. We encounter this reflection before facing the actual radiance itself. The operation of the Moon precedes the experience of the Sun, and thus recedes behind it in time. It represents the state just before perfected control of the ruling authority of the Sun; as the approaching Light shines on ahead by reflection.

The great work of the alchemist is called the work of Moon and Sun, aided by Mercury. As you grow in the Work you come to recognize your body and all things as spiritual in their essence. Then does your physical vehicle become a true Temple of God, not made by hands. It is at this point that one is ready to tread the Path in earnest. The feet refer symbolically to the Sephirah Understanding. Here one begins the Return to what he faintly remembers he really is.

The dry land of manifestation emerges from the deeps of Cosmic Mind-Stuff, out of which all form proceeds. This plane of universal subconscious refers to Yesod, or Sphere of the Moon on the Tree of Life. It is more often called the seat of the Vital Soul and automatic consciousness. This represents the completion of involution, preceding the next and final stage of spiritual evolution. The evolving states of consciousness manifest here first as the stone, representing the dense mineral kingdom, then the water-plant, its leaves pointed upward as though aiming high, reminiscent of the meaning of Sagittarius. More cultivated vegetation continues into the field to show Nature's progress.

A primitive form of animal life, the crustacean, is climbing from its habitat in the deep, its shell typifying the earlier stages of unfoldment at which time one still feels separated both from the aspect of Nature and from the realm of Spirit. It represents instinctive energy. The jackal and dog show higher forms of intelligence, both the wild or uncontrolled, and the tamed and controlled form of canine species. Like dogs baying at the moon, they are of the lower state of natural mind or intellect, afraid because the only light they have is a reflected one. They know not what lies in the mysterious area beyond the portals which mark the boundary between the known and the unknown.

The scarab, a beetle sacred to the Egyptians, pushes along its egg, coated with mud, until it hatches from the warmth of the sun. The scarab's egg was considered a symbol of the Sun itself, being carried in silence through the night, or, winter, prior to its resurrection and birth into Light.

The towers form a gateway between the field of well cultivated experience and the limits of ordinary knowledge, acting as boundaries of the great Unknown through which one must tread to reach the Heights. The towers show the last outpost of humanity on the Way. The only light they receive is that of reason, admitted by one small window high up in each tower. So, they see little and understand less of the Eternal Way.

At this early stage on the Path, the young-in-Truth, represented by the violet sea-creature, is barked at and urged away by the savage warnings of untrained minds, and even by friendly, for-your-own-good interference, as shown by the jackal and dog.

The undulation of the Path suggests the cyclic nature of all progress, the ups and downs, the high points and the low, but in an ever-rising scale, until it reaches the top of the mountain. One travels more than the actual distance, due to dips in the road. But these are necessary in grading the Path to facilitate travel, rather than going straight up. One must not be dismayed by down cycles; the total progress is upward.

To those seeking a way in the desert, paths made by jackals proved easiest to follow, avoiding as they did the difficult valleys or precipices. Thus was the jackal, reminiscent of Anubis, called "the Opener of Ways." He also guarded the Path so that only those who knew God might pass.

The Moon has sixteen larger and sixteen smaller rays, a total of thirty-two, referring to the thirty-two Paths of Wisdom as the thirty-two modes of human conscious energy are called on the Tree of Life - twice as many as the rays of the Sun (next Key).

These are the thirty-two forces which together weave the vesture of the human body about the personality. The "white work" of the Moon holds the secret of building the mystical temple of regenerated humanity. King Solomon's temple was a Type mystically built to foreshadow this work according to proportions divinely revealed.

Whereas Kether represents the Vast Countenance, Qoph may be said to represent the Radiant Darkness behind the Countenance which first concentrates in Kether and then emanates forth as the Ten Sephiroth, the effects of its Power. The number associated with Qoph is 100, called the sum of all perfections, or the sum of the Ten Sephiroth multiplied by themselves (10 x 10 = 100). More literally this represents the ten unutterable Sephiroth brought into manifestation through self-contemplation, then multiplied by the manifested Sephiroth of the Tree of Life to total 100, and this is called the "key to bringing forth of Form."

The Yods

The Yods in Tarot first appear as the blue cap of The Hermit, Key 9. Next, in Key 14, we find five yellow yods of flame dropping from the torch of Michael upon the eagle's head, to effect a transformation.

In Keys 16 and 18 the yods dripping from heaven are colored like flames, yellow with a smaller red yod at the lower point. There are twenty-two of these in Key 16 to represent the twenty-two Hebrew letters, and they are arranged in geometric patterns.

The eighteen yods in Key 18 encircle the sides and lower portion of the Moon, somewhat reminiscent of the cup of a chalice. In certain other versions this Key shows drops of blood coming down from the Moon.

In Key 19 are thirteen orange yods from the Sun. Older versions show drops of living gold to indicate supreme spiritual riches raining down upon them.

Key 18
THE MOON

Corporeal Intelligence is attributed to Key 18. It means Body Consciousness and is indicative that Illumination is dependent upon bodily states. Until the bodily organs are, evolved to the extent that higher forms of consciousness can manifest through them it is impossible to experience such conscious states. Sleep is also attributed to this Key, and it is during sleep that our aspirations and efforts are built into organic I structure. Every thought we think, and every action has some modifying influence on bodily structure.

It is said that the way of attainment is the way of return. This is symbolized by the Moon, which reflects the rays of the sun back into the sun. The crawfish represents instinctive energy. The wolf and the dog represent the same energy, but in higher form, as the result of evolutionary modification. Also, the wolf is a symbol of nature and the dog of art because he is a product of human adaptation. The path passes between these two extremes, because the way of balance pes neither too far towards artificiality nor allows everything to be influenced by ungoverned natural impulses. The path leads through the well-tilled field to the unknown heights beyond the two towers representing present human attainments. The ground is undulatory, representing alternate periods of rest and action. The stage of unfoldment is Organization.

Key 18 – The Moon

Hebrew Letter: Qoph (ק) – “Back of the Head” 🧠
- ק Qoph means *Back of the Head* — the seat of the medulla and subconscious drives.
- Symbol of the hidden mind, instinct, and the twilight of the soul.
- A Simple Letter, Qoph governs Pisces, the sign of imagination, dream, and mysticism.

English Equivalent / Value: Q = 100
- Nineteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 100 = fullness, cycles brought to completion, spiritual testing.
- Qoph as “back of the head” points to subconscious patterns that shape awareness.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Corporeal Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that governs the body.
- Represents the dreamlike veil through which Spirit descends into matter.

Aspect of Consciousness: Sleep / Dream / Testing of the Soul
- Faculty of sleep and imagination.
- The Moon symbolizes trial by illusion, navigating subconscious waters, and testing the soul’s discernment.
- Consciousness here is tested to distinguish truth from false light.

Astrology: Sign Pisces ♓ — Feb 19–Mar 20 (Adar / Late Winter)
- Pisces = dream, mysticism, fluidity, dissolution of boundaries.
- Ruled by Jupiter ♃ (traditional) and Neptune ♆ (modern) — expansiveness and illusion.
- Represents the ocean of dreams and the testing ground of imagination.

Polarity: Wealth ↔️ Poverty
- Wealth = richness of imagination, spiritual treasure in dreams.
- Poverty = delusion, loss in the illusions of shadow.

Seasonal Associations:
- Late Winter — twilight before rebirth, testing in darkness before light returns.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟣🔴 Violet-Red
- Violet-Red = mystery, twilight, shadowed perception.
- Symbolizes the veil of illusion that must be pierced.

Musical Note: 🎵 B
- Resonates with dream-vibration, mystery, and subconscious depth.

Path on the Tree: 29th Path
- Connects Netzach (Victory) → Malkuth (Kingdom).
- Called the Corporeal Intelligence — path of embodiment through the veil of illusion.
- The Moon = the shadowy trial leading the soul through testing to true vision.

Cube of Space: South Below Edge
- Qoph rules the Cube’s south-below edge — twilight foundation beneath manifestation.
- Represents subconscious depth, shadow, and the passage through illusion.

Alchemy / Metal: Tin ⚖️ (Jupiter) / Silver ⚪ (Lunar association)
- Tin = Jupiter’s expansiveness; Silver = lunar reflection.
- Together symbolize dream’s promise and peril — expansion through reflection or delusion.

Attributions:

Simple Letter: Key 18 - Q Qoph Moon Sleep

Key 18: Its function Sleep and *Organization*.

Path of Wisdom 29 is called the Corporeal Intelligence, or Body Consciousness. "It informs everybody which is incorporated under all orbs and is the growth thereof."

Letter Q, in Hebrew Qoph, means "back of head." The earliest form of Qoph was like a knot, and out letter Q often resembles such. This letter precedes or prepares the way for the next letter which means "head."

Qoph as a number is 100.

This is the fourth step of Spiritual Unfoldment. In this stage takes place the alchemical transformation of the natural vehicle to one of sensitive refinement, responsive to higher forces.
Aspect of Consciousness: (Corporeal) Organization
The organization and intelligence of the body as the agglomeration of our individual cells and of our thinking. This Key represents the "fourth stage of spiritual unfoldment, wherein the knowledge gained by meditation is incorporated into the bodily organism. It is the stage of body building, or organization in accordance with subconscious mental patterns."

Hebrew Name: Qoph (back of head)
Qoph means "back of the head." As the back of the head, Qoph represents that which leads up to and "comes before the dominion and rulership of which the word 'head' is a symbol." Qoph represents the period of development which takes place under the control of subconscious processes whereby all organic structures undergo transformation and evolutionary growth.

Sleep is the function assigned to Qoph. "Sleep is the period of physiological repair, during which the cells of the body undergo subtle changes which make [one] ready to experience and understand facts and phenomena concealed from ordinary men. These facts are the experiential basis of Ageless Wisdom."

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Corporeal Intelligence
Corporeal means "body". The "Corporeal Intelligence means 'body consciousness', the aggregate intelligence of the cells of the body." In Hebrew, the word translated "corporeal" means "to rain upon" [and] refers to the descent of the life-force from above into the conditions of corporeal existence."

Astrological Correspondence: Pisces.
Pisces is attributed to Qoph. "Pisces is receptive, intuitive and emotional, imaginative, romantic, impressionable and mystical, and very changeable. [It is symbolized by] two fishes tied to one another and swimming in opposite directions: Signifying hidden depths, shifting emotional patterns, conflicting desires, and extremes of

temperament." Each of these states and conditions result from the way our subconscious patterns express and shape our lives.

Pisces rules the feet, and as feet are the means of traveling a path, the subconscious body-building process (which Pisces symbolizes) is what governs the growth and evolution of all organic structures, including our physical bodies.

Pisces is ruled by Neptune. Evolutionary growth is ruled by the fact that everything in existence is composed of, in union with and totally dependent upon the One Universal Subconscious Mind-Stuff. The process of evolution is the ONE growing it Self.

Venus is exalted in Pisces. Imagination finds its highest form of expression in the building of bodies, vehicles and organic structures which are capable of expressing some desired function or activity.

Number: 18
The power of 8 operating through the agency of 1. The Law of Suggestion in action, which controls and creates the subconscious patterns which in turn create and build form. All organic structures are built under the control of the Law of Suggestion, be it an individual body, a personality, an institution, a culture, a nation, or an entire race.

Color / Note: Red-Violet / B

The Scene: Under a moonlit night, a shellfish emerges out of a pool of water and begins to crawl along a path which ultimately leads to a mountain top. This scene shows the whole process of evolution.

The Pool: " The great deep of the cosmic mind stuff, out of which emerges the dry land of physical manifestation. From it all organic life proceeds. [...] Also refers to Yesod (9th Sephira), the sphere of the Moon, the seat of the Vital Soul, manifested in man as automatic consciousness, generally referred to as subconsciousness."

The Shellfish: " A symbol of the early stages of conscious unfoldment. In these first developments of consciousness, the individual seems to be isolated from the rest of nature."

The Path: Symbol of the evolution of consciousness. You build a specialized body by holding an image in your mind that drives you to action. Action is the secret. You can't just sit on your duff and dream. That's why you see the path in this key. You must tread the path. However, it is not an unbroken upward path. It undulates, waxes and wanes - a balance of activity and rest, expression and assimilation.

The two Dogs: The path passes between the "wolf, who remains as nature made him [and a] dog, a product of human adaptation. Thus the path passes between the extremes of nature and art." The path of return is the Middle Way.

The Towers: The path progresses from the mineral and vegetable kingdom (ground with stones and plants) to the animal kingdom (wolf and dog), until it comes to the boundaries of the known (the towers). The two man-made towers signify the ordinary limits of human sensation and perception which is based upon separation. As a part of a larger wall (not shown) the towers form a gateway to the beyond. Creative Imagination (Gateway-Door-Daleth-Empress & Venus which is exalted in Pisces) is key to opening the door to growth and experience which is beyond that of ordinary perception & limitation.

The Mountain: The mountain peak of the Hermit (18 reduces to 1+8 = 9) is the goal of the path.

The Moon: " Symbolizes the reflected light of subconsciousness" which governs bodily growth. Contains 32 rays for the 32 paths of wisdom on the Tree of Life. Thus, the rays show the sum total of the cosmic forces at work.

Falling Yods: " The yods raining down from it refer to the descent of the life-force from above into the conditions of corporeal existence."

When deep sleep falleth upon man, in slumbering's upon the bed, then He openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction." - Job 33.

Blue distance shows planes of consciousness we may enter after the body has changed.

The moon has 16 principal rays and 16 short ones, which refer to the 32 Paths of Wisdom, or 32 modes of human conscious energy, woven together to make human personality and bodily vesture. Subconscious powers are represented by the Moon, on this Path of Return.

The path is narrow, showing the requirement of concentration on the goal. Cycles and rhythm, waxing and waning, ups and downs, are shown by its undulation. Yet it ever rises. a Beginning in the realm of the familiar, the cultivated area of experience, it passes from less known to Unknown; yet it is a path marked by the footsteps of those who have gone before. It is the Path of Return to God.

The mountains beyond are also the Source. The way of attainment is the Path of Return to the heights of identity with the One Reality.

The Towers show mental attitude of the average man, self-protection against his environment; also, the outposts of things known. The windows symbolize correct reasoning which admits a little light. But these towers represent the ordinary limits to human perception and sensation. They are not boundaries, but portals to the Beyond.

18 Yods show the descent of Life-Force from above, into conditions of bodily existence. These combine a yellow color (solar energy), with red, for the vital force in blood. Powers of the subconsciousness develop through changes in the chemical constitution of blood.

The dog and wolf are both of the canine family, the wolf through natural evolution, and the dog through human adaptation; the one is a symbol of Nature, the other of the modification of Nature through Art. They represent the trained and untrained intellect

The scarab beetle is an Egyptian sacred symbol, representing the immortality and evolution of the soul, rolling before him the emblem of the sun.

The crayfish is a little lower form of life - the crustacean - his shell of self-separation, like undeveloped man. It suggests instinctive energy, and the force of Scorpio. He is the great Fish, pulled up from the astral waters - the soul in the process of being reborn in God.

Plants and Stones are a still lower form of life and manifestation.

Pool: This is the reduced essential from which all things once again emerge.

The body is built and maintained by the automatic consciousness. When man is ready fully to return to God, his vehicle must be further refined, and made a vessel able fully to accept the Light of Christ.

This is the stage of development when bodily forces become fully organized.

The Moon accomplishes in one month its circle around the earth, comparable to the circle of earth around the Sun which requires one year. Thus is the month a reflection of the solar year, as moonlight itself is a reflection of sunlight.

The most obvious effect of the lunar cycle is upon the watery tides, and upon the female biological functions. The moon has long been designated as ruler over water and woman and is also said to be related to the soul and the astral plane.

Measures of time were first equated with lunar rhythms before solar timing, because of the easily observable increase and decrease of the lunar crescent. At each New Moon, for three nights the moon disappears from the heavens, but on the fourth day it reappears or is "reborn." Certain people taught that the soul journeys to the moon immediately after death, which equates it again with the astral level. "This day you shall be with me in paradise."

🎨 Key 18 – The Moon: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟣🔴 Violet-Red (Pisces)
- **Path:** 29th Path – Netzach → Malkuth (Qoph, ק – “Back of the Head”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟣🔴 Violet-Red
- **Meaning:** Violet-Red is the vibratory field of Pisces, Qoph the Path of imagination, reflection, and subconscious testing. It represents the blending of high spiritual vibration (violet) with the passionate drive of red, producing both the glamour of illusion and the initiation into true vision.
- **Symbolism:** Testing, initiation, imagination, dreams and illusions that must be pierced by the light of Spirit.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Path; Moon and rays; yods (except red tongues).
- **Meaning:** Light of intellect reflected in lunar beams, guiding the seeker through shadow.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, guidance in the night of the soul.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Grass in foreground (stops before towers).
- **Meaning:** Fertility and growth at the entrance to the path of testing.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, balance, harmony of Nature as foundation.

🟩+⚫ Gray-Green – Scarab of Transformation

- **Areas:** Scarab beetle.
- **Meaning:** Mystery of renewal, sacred insect carrying the solar seed.
- **Symbolism:** Rebirth, immortality, continuity of life.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Sky background; pool.
- **Meaning:** Subconscious waters reflecting the Moon’s light.
- **Symbolism:** Memory, reflection, subconscious vision.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Solar disk carried by scarab.
- **Meaning:** Seed of solar vitality hidden in lunar currents.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, divine spark, continuity of the Sun within darkness.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Towers; stones beside pool; wolf and jackal.
- **Meaning:** Neutrality of opposing guardians flanking the path.
- **Symbolism:** Polarity, dual guardianship, equilibrium of subconscious forces.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Crawfish; mountains (diluted violet).
- **Meaning:** Spiritual force latent in subconscious waters, distant peaks of truth.
- **Symbolism:** Transformation, higher sovereignty, initiation through challenge.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

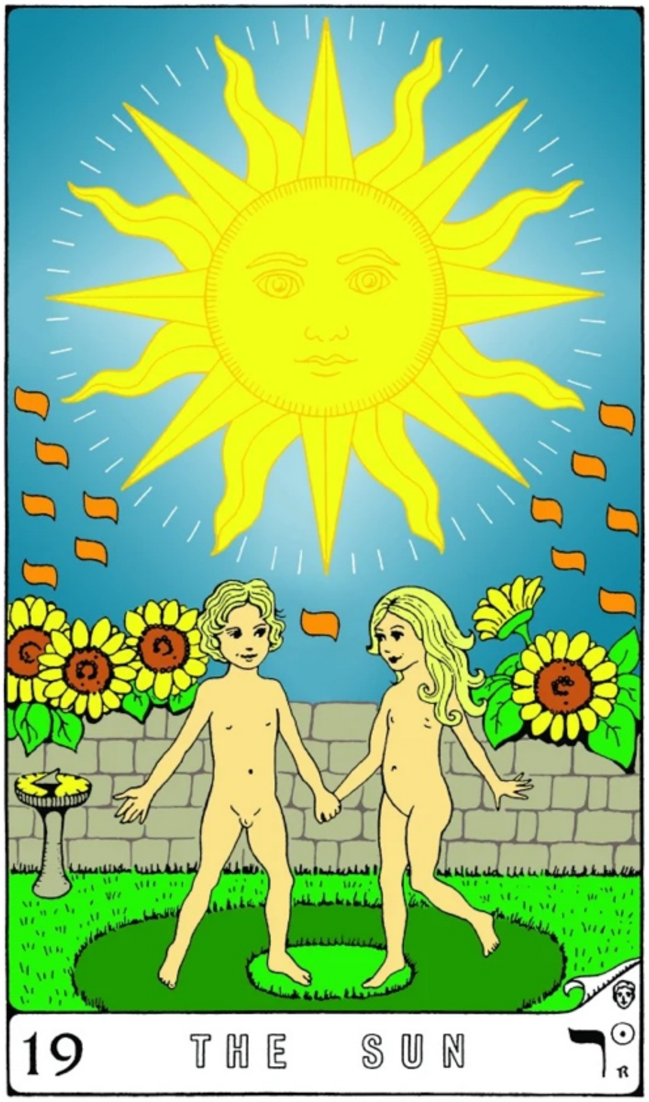
- **Areas:** Dog; plains between grass and mountains.
- **Meaning:** Natural instincts and earthy terrain of the path.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, instinct, earthly support.

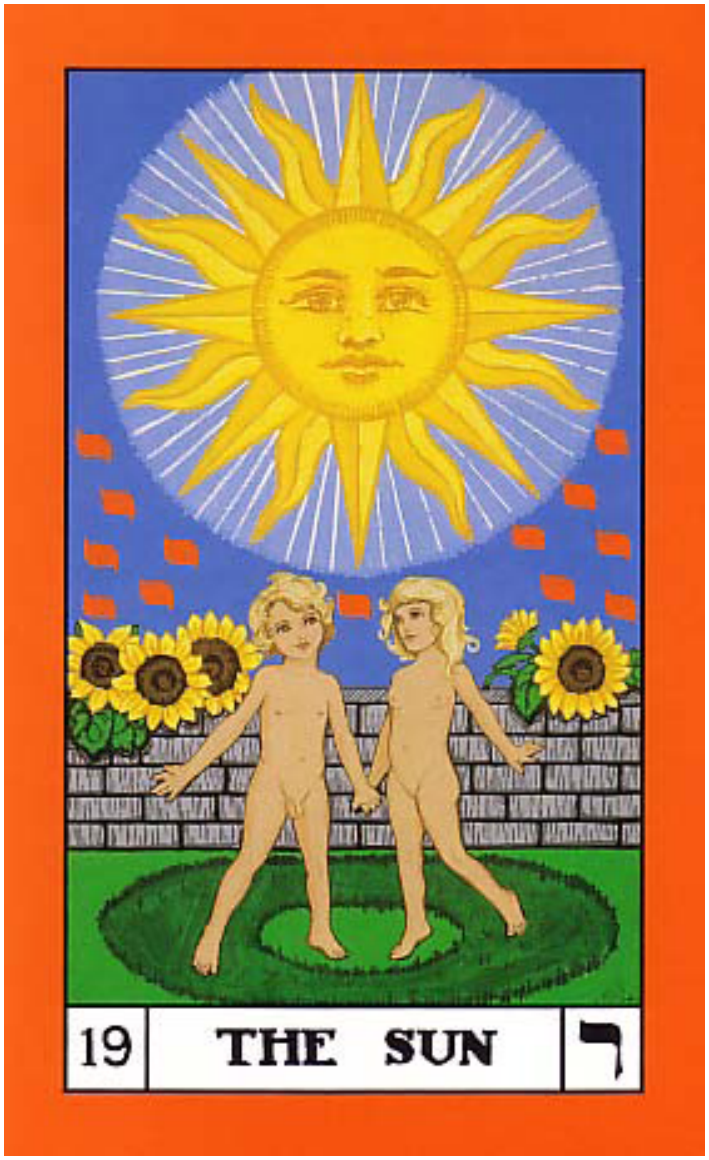
⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Tower windows; pool highlights; wolf’s tooth.
- **Meaning:** Purity shining in symbols of testing and initiation.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit, innocence, glimpses of truth amid illusion.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Flame-tongues in yods.
- **Meaning:** Fiery passion hidden within reflected lunar light.
- **Symbolism:** Energy, testing fire, creative force within shadow.


19
THE SUN
ר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THE SUN
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Key 19
THE SUN

Letter R Resh - Countenance

> He has set a tent for the Sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is porn the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hid from its heat.

The Sun is the Source of practically all the energy we have, its life-giving rays providing all the heat and light, food, fuel, and power which sustain life on this planet, or any other in our system. It even makes the weather, causing winds through warming and cooling of air. The moisture which drops to earth as rain results from drops drawn by the sunup into the clouds.

Very little of the sun's total light and energy ever reaches the earth, and much that is directed our way bounces back from the outer atmospheric shell. But that little we receive is the reason our globe is not pitch-dark, is not frozen, dead, nor airless - but has the light, warmth, color and Life given by the Sun. In fact everything we look at is the result in one way or another of solar power.

Its powerful gravitational pull holds the earth on its oval path, and all the other planets in their orbits, as they move round the sun.

The Sun is the Center and undisputed head of our solar system, the power that holds us all in balance, surpassed only by the greater Head, our God Who created it. Neither the planets nor their moons have any light within themselves. They appear as shining stars in the sky only because they act as mirrored balls which reflect the light of the sun as it strikes their atmosphere.

The Sun is fully illumined throughout, with no dark side, and no dark corners to hide in. More than a lamp set on a hill, it is a ball of blazing Light set in the middle of our solar system, the pivot and hub of it all, the nucleus of the cell.

The Illumined being also becomes a Sun (Son) who shines out from all sides unto those who come nigh and must not hide his light under a bushel. He differs from the old religionist who knew only reflected planetary light and hearsay truths, who had no experience nor understanding of them. The true Son is Light, and must become ever more aware that he is a source of illumination to those about him. In him must be no darkness at all as he becomes increasingly aware of the Light, it grows in intensity and measure. The bright face of the Sun searches out any darkness lurking within the seeker approaching him in the Way; the Christ exposes and drives out any darkness as you approach the Light.

When the Light of Christ fully infuses the earth, it will search out all things in every place, and none shall find a hiding place. Whoso tries to flee from it will but run into his own faulty shadow materializing in every place he turns, until it becomes unbearable and he must shed it, with the faults that cause it.

But as he becomes a Son, transparent, he will cast no shadow, but both receive light and emit it.

The previous Key 18 brought us through stages of physical transformation, wherein our lives and bodies were lifted from below and refined. Now in this fifth stage of spiritual unfoldment, the ultimate stage of transformation has been reached, where the Christ Light is absorbed by the prepared being, and man becomes reborn as a little child who knows himself to be in truth a Son of God. Yet he could tell no one how he knows nor how it happened, nor as yet how to use it. Regeneration is the function of this step.

The Light which has been growing and fed both from afar (Key 17) and from near (Key 18) has now come to its own, like the little bear "just right" to perform its life-giving function. It has been lifted up, as our own Lord was lifted up into the heavens, no longer of any "sign" or earthly attribute, but ruler of his own universe.

Christ is the head of the church, said Paul; and the Sun, when realized, becomes the Radiant Head and ruler of our lives. The essence of Christ within our bodily temple becomes the ruler thereof, when we open the door to his knock and bid the Only Begotten of God to come in and sup with us. The Head of anything is that which takes charge and authority. The average man lets his mortal brain or heart do this, from an earthly basis. But the Son means spiritually to man all that the sun means physically to the earth and planets.

Resh, as the letter of this Key, looks like an elongated Yod with a line pointed like a ray to send its Life Force down. It corresponds to our letter R, and translated from the Hebrew means "Face, Head, or Countenance." The word "countenance" is also related to the Latin for "contain," and implies that it is within itself.

Collective Intelligence is the name of this Path, for not only does the Sun "contain" but it also collects and distributes the energy and power of Life.

Some of the ancient Mysteries taught that the head was the ruler of the physical body, while the heart was ruler of the spiritual. They really meant the Central Self, rather than the heart. The head is called the shaper of form in the sense that it directs the energies of the individual. A face is shown on the Sun here to bring out the fact that the Solar Being is a great living intelligence.

While the heavenly image of the Complete Being shows only a head or face, the children depict the two halves of man's consciousness, the intellect (boy) and the subconsciousness (girl). Both play an equal part here, and their former positions have been reversed, the girl placed at the right, and the boy at left. This time they are looking at each other with hands (the twin or Gemini part of the body) joined.

The Yod between their heads also indicates a living correlation between the two states of consciousness and shows that they are united in Mind. The six yods on either side remind one of Key 6 (Adam and Eve). The yods themselves represent droplets of living gold, radiant energy falling from the Sun to permeate the earth with Life, Light and Love. The Creative Light of this fluidic radiance is employed by God to maintain the Universe and all that is therein.

Orange is used both as a solar color, and to represent Gemini, or Key 6. New mental attitudes and attributes of personality are descending from the Sun. Thirteen is the total number of yods and is an ancient mystic number representative of the Self within. This results from the combination for the Self whose number was One, plus its composite number twelve for its twelve parts. The same teachings inferred that man's animal soul, his lunar nature, was made up of seven elements, while his body was composed of five elements.

The children represent the early stages of man's spiritual awareness that he has become a new creature and an embodiment of solar consciousness, a begotten Son of God. They have emerged from the depths of experience and stand as new creatures in Christ, fresh as new-born babies with nothing to be ashamed of, therefore nothing to conceal. They have the transparency of the very Wise who only seem complicated to the ignorant who cannot comprehend simplicity. "Why aren't you like me?" ask the foolish, "so that I might understand you?" The Wise man knows better than to explain. They will know when their time comes.

The newborn in Christ have emerged in purity from the compounded misinterpretation of man's teachings, as lotus from the mire. They know because they have experienced the Christ and are no longer dependent on what someone in the past has said or written, yet they now reverence more than ever the words of the Master, feeling their very real kinship with him, even as adopted brothers. They have made the transition coveted by all the sages, from the human state to the Divine.

The sunflowers appear like images of the sun, with double circles and rayed petals. There are supposed to be four full flowers shown, plus a fifth one about to open. These represent the four "kingdoms" over which man has been given dominion, plus the "fifth kingdom" referring to the new regenerated humanity which is just now coming into manifestation. Compare the rays of the flower with another symbol of the Sun, a lion's face surrounded by a mane, his hair standing out as rays.

The Sun itself is shown with eight straight positive rays which are the same as those of the Star in Key 17. But the little nubby points then undeveloped have now grown out to full wavy length. These curved lines or negative rays indicate that the feminine aspect of the Life-Power has developed to become equally as important as the masculine energy of the Sun and no longer subordinate in function but trained in a better way. Eight is a number symbolic of solar energy.

It is shown yellow, instead of white as with The Fool, because it is intended to depict our actual orb, whereas the White Sun indicated the greater Spiritual Sun behind our own, and around which it revolves. The three straight lines between each ray refer to the activities of integration, balance, and disintegration. Their sum total of forty-eight indicates the twelvefold nature of the One Power multiplied by the four elements, carried here to it highest degree.

The symbolism of 5 is emphasized further in that there are five rows of stone comprising the wall. In this case, the number refers to experiences drawn through the use of the five senses, which do give factual reports up to a point, though not all the way. Stone indicates whatever solid Truth has been gleaned from their lessons.

The Sun has risen above "the walled Garden of Truth to manifest its glory unto all who may receive. "I, if I be lifted up, ' shall draw all men to me." The children gesture with hands to show themselves free from all barriers which might have slowed their spirit* growth. A wall relates this symbol to Cheth of Key 7, the letter relating to speech. The children are 1 not fenced in by speech stemming from sense experience. They have become free of this, and gone beyond, having accepted the Light of a New Way.

The green growth emphasizes work of the sun's vitalizing rays, the physical sun of our solar system in harmony with Nature.

The horse was one of the symbols of solar power, and a former version of the Tarot showed a child riding upon a white horse. The Biblical book of Revelation mentions one seated upon a white horse, who is called Faithful and True. The double ring in which the children are dancing suggests that in the inner circle they are joined as one, but in the outer work they may diverge in direction and remain united. The grassy rings appear as a reflection of the Sun and its rays upon the face of Earth. The Center is One, the inner portion correlating with the disk of the Sun itself; the outer portion is as the divergent rays which move straight out in all directions from the center. Yet both are part of One Way.
"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of heaven like a child shall not enter it."

Key 19
THE SUN

Double Letter: Key 19 - R Resh Fertility & Sterility Sun

The Sun behind the Fool is the very first symbol in TAROT, and a clue to the meaning of all the rest. It represents the *Life Power* in the simplest and best way we can think about it. In Key 0 it is white, to represent the Spiritaa1 Life *Center of the Universe*. In Key 19 it is yellow or golden to represent the particular sun of our solar system. Our sun collects and distributes power impulses which give us our light and life. That is why the *Collecting Intelligence* is attributed to this Key.

The rays extending from the sun represent radiation (straight) and vibration (wavy). The human features indicate that the sun is no inanimate object, but a living, conscious Intelligence. The five sunflowers represent the natural kingdoms: mineral, vegetable, animal and human. The unopened flower is the next stage of our growth representing the conscious existence beyond our present state. The stage of unfoldment represented by this is *Regeneration*. Hence the two children represent *regenerated humanity*, recalling the statement of Christ that we must enter the Kingdom of Heaven as little children. The stone wall represents truth as partially revealed by the senses. It shows that comprehension of Truth is limited if founded solely upon sensory evidence, as in materialistic science.

Key 19 – The Sun

Hebrew Letter: Resh (ר) – “Head / Face” 🙂
- ר Resh means *Head* or *Face* — symbol of consciousness, awareness, and illumination.
- Represents the radiant center of vitality, the self-shining forth openly.
- As a Double Letter, Resh governs the Sun, the heart of the system and source of life.

English Equivalent / Value: R = 200
- Twentieth letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 200 = fullness of cycles, radiant expansion.
- Resh as *Head* = the radiant countenance of Spirit manifest in clarity.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Collecting Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that gathers and harmonizes the powers of creation.
- Collects rays of light into a unified illumination.

Aspect of Consciousness: Sight / Illumination / Vitality
- Faculty of sight — the power of clear vision and perception.

- The Sun symbolizes joy, vitality, glory, and clarity of mind.
- Consciousness here is radiant, transparent, and life-giving.

Astrology: Planet Sun ☉ — Day: Sunday (Sun's Day)
- Sun = vitality, illumination, integration, glory.
- Governs the life-force, selfhood, clarity, and radiant expression.
- Represents harmony of all planetary powers united in the solar center.

Polarity: Fertility ↔️ Barrenness
- Fertility = creative abundance, joy, illumination.
- Barrenness = sterility, lack of vitality, obscuration of light.

Seasonal Associations:
- High Summer — radiant light, fullness of life and growth.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟠 Orange
- Orange = radiance, vitality, warmth, joy.
- Color of the solar current flowing through all life.

Musical Note: 🎵 D
- Resonates with radiant clarity, harmony, and vitality.

Path on the Tree: 30th Path
- Connects Hod (Splendor) → Yesod (Foundation).
- Called the Collecting Intelligence — path of radiance that gathers all powers into glory.
- The Sun = the radiant center illuminating the foundation of the world.

Cube of Space: South Face
- Resh rules the Cube's south face — the face of glory, light, and radiant vitality.
- Represents the shining countenance of Spirit illuminating creation.

Alchemy / Metal: Gold (Sun)
- Pure, incorruptible, radiant.
- Symbol of illumination, glory, and perfected consciousness.

Attributions:

Aspect of Consciousness: Regeneration.
Regeneration - A re-birth from natural humanity into spiritual humanity, resulting from both a mental and physical transformation. The regenerated human body and personality. The culmination of the successive processes depicted by keys 15 through 18 where sufficient compression & re-organization has occurred (in both mind and body) to result in an ignition of consciousness into a new order of being. Thus, one is re-born or born-again.

" This Key represents the fifth stage of spiritual unfoldment. It is a degree of adeptship, that of liberation from the limitations of physical matter and circumstances. It is also a stage of conscious self-identification with the One Life. Yet it is not final [..., for] a person who has reached this grade still feels himself to be a separate, or at least distinct entity. [It is the] stage in which all physical forces are dominated by the will of the adept, because he is an unobstructed vehicle for the One Will which always has ruled those forces, since the beginning."

Hebrew Name: Resh (head)
"Resh" means the head and face of man. "In the head are gathered together, or collected, all the distinctively human powers. The word "countenance," in fact, is derived from a Latin verb meaning "to hold together, to contain." Again, the head of any project is its organizer, director, guiding power, manager, controller. Thus, we may expect to find in the symbols of Key 19 plain intimations of authority and leadership."

Being a Hebrew double-letter, Resh is attributed to the opposites of Fruitfulness and Sterility. Thus, it represents the "extremes of expression in the manifestation of solar force. The sun causes all growth, but it also makes deserts."

Letter R, in Hebrew Resh, which means "head," or "face," or Countenance. In the head are gathered together, or collected, the human powers of authority and leadership. The numerical value of Resh is 200.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Collecting Intelligence
"To collect is to assemble, to bring together, to combine, to unify, to embody, to synthesize. [This intelligence] concentrates all the modes of consciousness which have gone before and combines them in a new form. Thus, it is a regenerative mode consciousness, Incorporating all the elements of control In a new realization of personality." As the physical sun collects gases and compresses them until ignition is achieved, so too the Collective Intelligence signifies the outpouring of light from one whose consciousness has been refined, purified and compressed until it has ignited.

Astrological Correspondence: The Sun
Astrologically, the ruler of this Key is the Sun, whose metal is gold. It is the center of our solar system, and ruler of the sign Leo.

The Sun is attributed to Resh. The following ideas are associated with the Sun: Concentrated energy; light and life; gold; warmth; love; the heart; rulership; the One Ego.

The sun is also the symbol for alchemical gold, of which Eliphas Levi wrote: "The gold of the philosophers is, in religion, the absolute and supreme reason, in philosophy it is truth; in visible nature it is the sun, which is the emblem of the sun of truth, as that itself is the shadow of the First Source whence all splendors spring; in the subterranean world it is the purest and most perfect gold. For this reason, the search after the magnum opus is called the search after the Absolute, and the Great Work is itself called the work of the sun." This radiant energy of the sun (both physical and subtle non-physical) is also known as "living gold" and as the "First Matter" of the Great Work.

The Sun rules the sign of Leo. The Sun is a symbol of the dominant force manifested by the process depicted in Key 8. The Law of Suggestion (Leo) is the process by which the One Will shapes the substance of itself (the radiant solar force or First Matter) into ALL forms. The Sun is a self-conscious entity, which shapes the substance of itself into all forms, including us. We are truly children of the Sun.

The Sun is exalted in Aries. The radiant solar force finds its highest form of expression in the Supreme and Sovereign Reason attributed to K4 / Reason / The Emperor / Aries.

Number: 19
The Power of 9 (The Hermit) acting through the Agency of 1 (The Magician). The Law of Response in action. The Expression of the One Will through human self-consciousness. Human personality as an unobstructed vehicle for the One, shining his/her lantern as the One Will's direct agent in service to humanity. 19 "is also the final term of the series of Keys representing self-conscious intellection, viz., 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16."

Key 19, whose keynote is Regeneration, is also called the Directing Principle.

Path of Wisdom 30 is known as the Collective Intelligence - "thence astrologers, by the judgment of stars and heavenly signs derive their speculations, and the perfection of their science, according to the motions of the stars."

Color / Note: Orange / D

The Sun: The Sun has a face representing the truth that the " seemingly material forces of nature really are modes of conscious energy, essentially human in character and potencies." The rays of the Sun are alternatively waved (vibration) and straight (radiation).

4 Sunflowers: " Four sunflowers, representing the four Qabalistic worlds, the four kingdoms of nature (mineral, vegetable, animal, and human) turn, not towards the sun, but towards the little child, as if to hint that all creation turns to man for its final development."

Wall: " The wall in the background represents human adaptation of natural conditions." It is a stone fence and thus a symbol of The Chariot (Key 7) and the idea of speech. The fence indicates that all language is limited to describing things derived directly from sensory experience. " This is Why language fails whenever one attempts to use it to describe experiences which go beyond the range of physical sensation. This is why mystics and seers are forced to resort to symbolic uses of language."[10]   Since human language cannot express the highest forms of realization, the child turns his back to this wall indicating that he turns his back on the life based upon appearances and sensation. "He leaves behind the artificial erections of race-consciousness, and fares forth free and joyous on his journey home."

Child: The child is nude to show his Eden like innocence. The child represents regenerated self-consciousness and subconsciousness.

Horse: Symbolic of solar energy, the animal nature, as well as being a vehicle (body) for travel. In this stage, the regenerated self-conscious & subconscious modes ride upon (reside within) a fully humanized & regenerated vital animal soul (Yesod) and physical body, resulting in perfect balance and control.

Red Banner: Symbolic of Universal Volition or Will (Geburah), vibration and action. Indicates that the regenerated personality is a standard bearer for the One Will and carries out its actions. Carried in left hand indicating that the measurement and control of this force have passed from self-consciousness (right hand) to subconsciousness (left hand) and has thus become automatic. "Thus it is easy, and the great standard seems no burden to the boy."

The Fifth Stage of Spiritual Unfoldment, it represents New Birth from natural into spiritual humanity.

> "Except ye become as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Matthew 18:3.

The Sun of our solar system collects and distributes power impulses which hold all together. Behind it is the Spiritual Sun which was glimpsed behind the Fool; the Life-Power as the essence from which all was created.

The Sun was the symbol used for "alchemical gold," and the subject of the Great Work. This living radiance performs transformations in both vehicle and consciousness.

> "Unto you that fear My Name, the Sun of Righteousness shall rise, with healing in his wings." Malachi 4:2.

The human features depict the Sun as a symbol of living, conscious intelligence - a Being, rather than a thing. All celestial bodies, say ancient doctrines, are vehicles of intelligence. The Moon shows some things through reflected light, the Sun with direct Light.

The short rays shown in the Star of Key 17 have here extended to wavy lines of equal length and show the development of the female potential.

The small lines drawn within the Sun's circle usually number 125, as cube of the number 5, to indicate dominion of Spirit over matter.

The 13 orange yods falling down from the Sun indicate the energies of the Hermit in his secret activity, with a tinge of Mars (yellow plus red.) They also depict Unity and Love, by their placement, two sets of sixes (the Lovers,) plus an extra one between, showing a spiritual fire.

Five sunflowers, four of them open, indicate four stages of evolution in form: mineral, animal, vegetable, and human, plus the fifth stage of spiritual, regenerated humanity, not yet fully developed. This fifi flower has turned its face toward the Sun above.

The five rows of stones in the wall are of true stone, showing God's work, and indicating the esoteric meaning of the word "stone," which is the union of Father and Son. the five rows indicate that the information drawn from the reports of the five senses are of use as far as they go.

But the children have turned their backs upon this, having "outgrown" the limited perspective of physical life alone. They are the new-born regenerated conscious and subconscious minds, and personality.

The sundial, which tells time by the light of the Sun, is also behind them, for Time itself has earthly limitations. They face outward toward a fleer way for which they have been trained. This is a high stage of development where one becomes a true channel for the One Divine Will, having given up his own petty way.

This is a degree of adeptship, yet not complete. They have the joy of new-found freedom in Truth and in being filled with Light of Christ, the Son. They have themselves become new Sons of God.

The flowers symbolize Life, and the wall symbolizes Word, as the "enclosure of speech."

🎨 Key 19 – The Sun: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🟠 Orange (The Sun)
- **Path:** 30th Path – Hod → Yesod (Resh, ר – “Head”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🟠 Orange
- **Meaning:** Orange is the solar vibration of Resh, combining red’s vitality with yellow’s clarity. It represents Splendor transfigured by the Sun, radiant joy, health, and enlightenment. In this Key the Sun is both hero and purifier, pouring its golden drops of Spirit upon creation.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, abundance, purification, radiant consciousness.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Sun and rays; sunflower petals; sundial face.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity illuminating all life.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, divine radiance.

🟢 Green – Venusian Growth

- **Areas:** Leaves; grass (circle darker than rest).
- **Meaning:** Fertility and harmony of Nature under solar influence.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, renewal, balance of life.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Background encircling rays.
- **Meaning:** Cosmic sky surrounding solar brilliance.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, depth, cosmic balance.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Sunflower centers.
- **Meaning:** Dense Earth grounding the solar light.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, fertility, endurance of growth.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Wall; sundial (except face).
- **Meaning:** Neutrality and order reflecting solar measure.
- **Symbolism:** Balance, structural order, wisdom in time.

🟠 Orange – Vital Sparks

- **Areas:** Yods.
- **Meaning:** Sparks of solar vitality raining upon the world.
- **Symbolism:** Enthusiasm, divine sparks, radiant fire.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Hair.
- **Meaning:** Golden innocence and vitality shining through the figures.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, innocence, abundance.

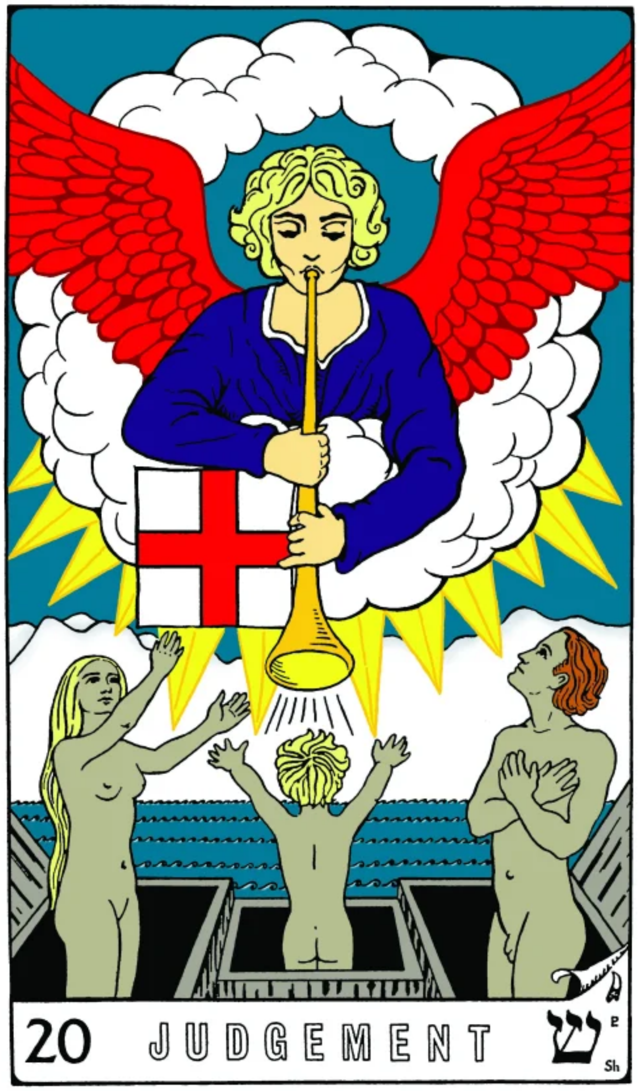
🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and face (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as vessel of solar joy and clarity.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit embodied in universal humanity.

Sun worship has been widely practiced in ancient times, having reached its most advanced form, so far as now known, in Mexico and Peru. Even Rome permitted Mithraic solar cult during the days of its Empire.

The Sun in these cults was usually equated with a hero-image, in contrast to the concept of a Father God who ruled the heavens.

Some saw the Sun as the Eye of the Supreme God, and not only as the source of heat and light, but of supreme riches, whose golden drops rain down on those below, when the opaque crust of the senses has been rendered sufficiently transparent so they may receive them - a function performed by the Sun in its purifying aspect.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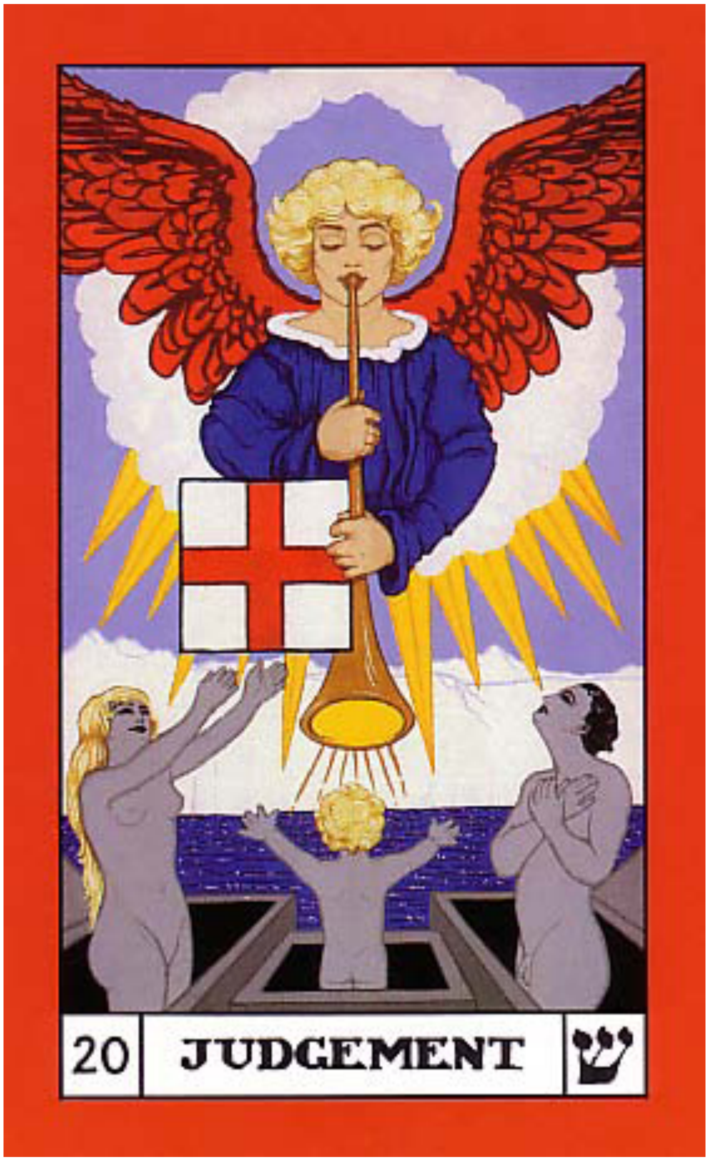
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KEY 20
JUDGMENT

Letter Sh Shin - Tooth

For judgement I am come into the world. - Job 9:39

Out of thine own mouth shall judge thee. - Luke 19:22

The three flames may be related to the Supernal creative triad on the Tree of Life, Kether, Chokmah, and Binah. The fool wears over his heart the emblem of the triple Flame, and a symbol of Shin is drawn at the lower right of his cloak. In some older versions The Fool is placed here, before Key 21.

Like the letter Shin itself, man's spiritual nature has a threefold aspect. Three flames are rising from a single base of the letter, as though one large fire was expressing itself in three rays. Similarly, man's own self-consciousness, subconsciousness, and the newborn regenerate being are three parts of one whole, depicted here as human figures which the angel is calling forth from a condition of separation, that they may function as one being in newfound liberation.

In Realization, which is the function of this Key, man moves from the limitations of his old three-dimensional existence with its mortal encasement, comparable to the sleep of death, to be transformed into a new awakened consciousness where one is functioning on all levels simultaneously and coming into the recognition of his True Being. They have overcome the dense world by standing at right angles to it.

This call is a spiritual summons from a level above the human, but the answer is from his innermost being, which recognizes its divine Source and joyfully reaches to embrace its Own. Another symphony re-sounds all the words he ever spoke.

Man must become attuned to the harmony of the universe, heard by some as the Grand AUM, or as the music of the spheres, when the inner ear has become finely attuned with rising levels of consciousness. A trumpet sounds the reveille to reawaken him by the power of the Divine Word, but actually the call comes from within himself.

The Sound from the trumpet is shown breaking up into seven tones as it comes forth, referring to the powers of the Seven Elohim expressed in Sound, or the Voice of Fire. Similarly, the light in Key 14 was shown breaking up into the seven rays of the rainbow. (We have depicted the corresponding sound waves also in color.) The trumpet is an instrument used to proclaim or publish abroad, as with announcing a coming event. Revelation 1: 0, "I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet . . ." Revelation 1:15, "His voice was like the sound of many waters . . ."

The Archangel of Water shown here is Gabriel, and being also, Archangel of the Moon, he is the invisible power behind The High Priestess, and director of her subconscious activities. Gabriel means "Strength of God," or "Might of God," and he has come to announce the completion of the Great Work. It was he who announced to Mary and to Elizabeth the coming birth of a son, each of them a departure from the laws of Nature. He said then, "I am Gabriel who stand in the Presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news."

The waters of consciousness from The High Priestess have flowed silently and sometimes secretly throughout all the rest and come to the reservoir of Binah, the Great Sea of Divine Understanding. Parts of the stream have solidified into icebergs shown in the background. In alchemy this is called the "Fixation of the volatile," or arresting of the stream of Consciousness. Judgement also terminates reasoning, the conclusion of which comes about with true Knowing.

In the time of Noah came the first destruction of the world by water, symbolizing the collective subconscious, and its flooding over the set boundaries. God promised then that it would never happen thus again, but next time by fire. This is not an earthly fire from below, not even one of human passions, but a spiritual fire descending from God, an invisible purging agent.

John baptized with water for repentance but said that Jesus "will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with Fire." Luke 3:16.

Fire is a symbol of Spirit. It is as mysterious and unknowable as the Spirit itself in essence. Of what is it made and whence does it come? Fire and Spirit are both related to the Divine Life-Breath, and here the tiny spark of divinity in man unites with the Whole Being.

The dictionary defines fire as "the invisible active phase of combustion, manifested in light and heat." Esoterically, Fire is the great crucible in whose nature all things are purged of their impurities, in order to return them again to a simple and pristine state. The dross of sham drops Erom all it embraces, and the essence of the thing becomes revealed.

God has sometimes appeared in Fire, encompassed with Fire, or has dropped fire from heaven. Deuteronomy 4:24 states, "The Lord thy God is a consuming Fire."

The Fire signs of the zodiac are Aries, Leo and Sagittarius. The planets associated with this Key are Vulcan, the smithy and God of Fire, and Pluto, ruling the fires of Hades.

We not only "die daily" with Paul, but daily rise, resurrected from earth's limitations. The coffins symbolize these restrictions which hold us apart and ignorant of the Real. The figures representing the conscious and subconscious minds have been joined by their offspring and combined essence, the new regenerated being in Light who stands in the middle in the square coffin. He is the true Stone of the wise, rising up out of the restricting encasement.

These coffins have kept apart without communication the three separate aspects of the consciousness of one single being. But at the trumpet call, they spring up to this new dimension wherein they are cognizant of each other, and able to work together. This new state is called the Fourth Dimension, and is symbolized by the posture of the figures, standing at right angles to their former horizontal positions. About to step up into the New Heaven and New Earth, this shows them leaving the old heaven and inert earth.

The figures are reversed from their usual positions, for here the man is standing in a passive attitude of adoration, while the woman is actively reaching out, and the child is facing inward, toward the Way from whence he came, now seeking inner guidance. The gray flesh shows that they have overcome all polar opposites and have blended all duality in wisdom. The position of their arms spells LUX, or the Latin word for Light, sometimes used as a signature among Brothers. Their attitudes on the physical plane have reversed as are all things on the astral, where they are beginning to function.

The Path of this Key is called The Perpetual Intelligence, which recognizes life as eternal, extended into the higher consciousness of Immortality. The new state, represented by the child, is no longer separate but a composite of both.

Water washes the surface of things, or flushes them out, but it cannot dissolve or remove the denser and more crystallized impurities. So, at this, the sixth stage of spiritual unfoldment called Realization, the solar Light burns out all that is not of itself. The inner spiritual Light cannot be destroyed by spiritual Fire from without but only increased thereby.

Realization brings a new dimension in consciousness, as the human or personal consciousness approaches the stage of blending with universal consciousness, thus liberating the spiritual body from the material.

M A Sh

This figure depicts the "universal energy in triple potency of expression." Shin is the third Mother letter of the Hebrew alphabet and represents the element of Fire. Aleph being that of Air, and Mem of Water. These three combine through the Breath of Aleph to bring about the completed stage called Earth in the next and last Key. Shin as a Hebrew letter is "sh," but as a noun it means "tooth," or "fang." We might call it the Tooth of Fire, or the Fang of Flame, that which breaks down material forms and releases the elements back into the bosom of Nature. "Sh" sounds like an admonition to be silent, and so it is, for idle talk dissipates the potency of the greater spiritual experience.

Just as the Tooth of Judgement breaks down and feeds upon all that is superfluous to our newfound spiritual life, so do the teeth of living beings break down food into component parts in order that these may be correctly digested and channeled for assimilation. When the great Judgement Day arrives for each man, not necessarily with bodily death, his former ideas of separation are broken down. When the Holy Spirit consumes all barriers from his life, the higher consciousness consumes the lower.

Shin was also called the Holy Letter, relating to the fiery Life Breath of the Elohim. It is this letter which is placed at the center of the Divine Name, JHVH or Yahweh in order to form the name "Jesus," as spelled in Hebrew J-H-Sh-V-H, as in Joshua.

Three times has the angel appeared - Raphael in Key 6, where Adam was tested. In Key 14 Michael appeared, and a new test was applied - that man should prove how far he had come, and whether he was qualified to enter a spiritual path. In Key 20, the end of this spiritual path has been nearly reached. He has already realized the Christ and now must show his readiness to "rise on the planes."

The angel has come to render decision. Whereas spasmodic flashes of Spirit showed in Key 16, Key 20 now brings a continuous recognition of Spirit, not lapsing even in sleep, serving God night and day. This again explains the name of the Path, Perpetual Intelligence.

Justice in Key 11 measures the deeds of everyone and the earthly Karma they have earned; but Judgement measures the soul of man and weights his spiritual merit. No scales are required to weigh and balance this, for Spirit sees the whole Truth instantaneously and knows all that is.

Number symbology in this Key brings out the proportion of five times five, or the square of 5, as used in the banner. This has been called the Magic Square of Mars, in reference to the fifty Sephirah and its fiery quality. It has been noted that this square appears as a window set on high in the heavens through which we may observe from a higher level of understanding. Another interesting reference to number is in the numerical value of the letter Shin, which is 300. One hundred or 10 x 10 represents perfection, as the reaching of perfection with Qoph: the value of Resh is 200, or twice-perfect; Shin represents triple perfection, in a summing-up of its three-fold nature in the number 300. (In Tav, Key 21, we will have manifested I perfection, for the final number 400 will have been brought forth and made solid.)

The clouds surrounding the angel form a circle within which the upper and lower halves resemble a number 8, eternity as the circle, and infinity or dominion as 8. The clouds remind one that the substance of those things which appear are of the same stuff as The High Priestess' garment, a form of the element water, and that this tends to veil the light of the Self. However, the twelve rays of light piercing the veil come from the Self. This is the Fire of Chokrnah hidden in the depths of the waters of Binah.

KEY 20
JUDGMENT

Mother Letter: Key 20 Sh Shin Realization Fire

The stage of spiritual unfoldment represented by Key 20 is *Realization*. It is at this stage that the human consciousness is on the verge of blending with the Universal Consciousness, hence, the idea of resurrection, or new birth, in which the limiting factors of this world of name and form represented by the coffins, are put away. That this is accomplished by vibratory activity controlled by the *Life-Breath* is conveyed by the symbolism of the angel blowing the trumpet. The cross upon the square banner symbolizes measurement, reasoned conclusions. This relates directly to the title of the card, because correct judgment depends upon right reasoning and the ability to weigh and measure the factors involved. The angel is the *True Self*. He is surrounded by clouds because the real Self is veiled by appearances caused by the operation of the substance typified by water, of which the clouds are made up.

The icebergs are symbolically similar to the figure in Key 12, since they represent the arresting of the flow of *mind-stuff*, represented by water. Twelve rays of light represent the zodiacal signs, and the seven rays from the trumpet are the seven planets. The three figures represent self-consciousness (the man), sub-consciousness (the woman), and their product, personality (the child). The flesh of the figures is grey to indicate that they have overcome the pairs of opposites. Grey also symbolizes the astral plane and represents wisdom.

Key 20 – Judgment

Hebrew Letter: Shin (ש) – "Tooth" 🦷
- ש Shin means *Tooth* — symbol of fire that consumes, breaks down, and transforms.
- Represents Spirit as the perpetual fire of renewal and resurrection.
- As a Mother Letter, Shin corresponds to the primal element of Fire 🔥.

English Equivalent / Value: Sh = 300
- Twenty-first letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 300 = fullness of cycles in Spirit, fiery transformation.
- Shin as tooth = the consuming flame that breaks down form to release new life.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Perpetual Intelligence
- Called the intelligence of continual motion and renewal.
- Symbolizes resurrection, eternal life, and the renewing fire of Spirit.

Aspect of Consciousness: Spirit / Renewal / Resurrection
- Faculty of Spirit itself — transformative fire that purifies and restores.

- Judgment signifies awakening, rebirth, and the call of higher destiny.
- Consciousness here rises in response to the trumpet of eternal renewal.

Astrology: Element Fire 🔥 — Summer Solstice
- Shin represents primal Fire — consuming, purifying, renewing.
- Associated with the height of solar light and transformative flame.
- Awakening of Spirit through fiery rebirth.

Polarity: Power ↔️ Submission
- Power = conscious mastery through Spirit's fire.
- Submission = yielding to Spirit, surrender to the higher call.

Seasonal Associations:
- Summer Solstice — fullness of fire, transformation into renewed life.

Color (Queen Scale): 🟣🔴 Violet-Red
- Violet-Red = fiery intensity of Spirit, transformative current of resurrection.
- Blended hue of flame and life renewed.

Musical Note: 🎵 B
- Resonates with fiery renewal, awakening, and perpetual Spirit.

Path on the Tree: 31st Path
- Connects Hod (Splendor) → Malkuth (Kingdom).
- Called the Perpetual Intelligence — path of continual renewal and resurrection.
- Judgment = the trumpet-call of Spirit awakening the Kingdom to new life.

Cube of Space: Interior Axis — North ↔️ South
- Shin rules the vertical north–south axis of the Cube.
- Represents the fiery current flowing through the heart of the Cube, purifying and renewing.

Alchemy / Metal: Sulfur (Fire)
- Sulfur = fiery principle of alchemy, representing Spirit itself.
- Symbol of purification, combustion, and resurrection into new form.

Key 21 – The World

Hebrew Letter: Tav (ת) – "Cross / Mark" ✝️
- ת Tav means *Cross* or *Mark* — a sign of completion, seal, or covenant.
- Represents fulfillment, wholeness, and the boundary that completes the cycle.
- As a Double Letter, Tav governs Saturn, planet of limitation, structure, and endurance.

English Equivalent / Value: T = 400
- Twenty-second and final letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 400 = completion of cycles, the seal of fulfillment.
- Tav as cross-mark = the signature of Spirit upon creation, the final stamp of truth.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Administrative (Collective) Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that regulates and perfects the whole work of creation.
- Represents the ordering principle that binds all together in harmony.

Aspect of Consciousness: Completion / Structure / Endurance
- Faculty of organization and order.
- The World signifies harmony, fulfillment, and conscious mastery of the whole.
- Consciousness here rejoices in integration, the dance of Spirit in matter.

Astrology: Planet Saturn ♄ — Day: Saturday (Saturn’s Day)
- Saturn = structure, limitation, endurance, wisdom of experience.
- Governs time, patience, maturity, and the fulfillment of cycles.
- Represents the boundary that perfects creation and seals it whole.

Polarity: Dominion ↔️ Slavery
- Dominion = mastery of cycles through wisdom.
- Slavery = bondage to time, form, or limitation.

Seasonal Associations:
- Winter — time of fulfillment, patience, and harvest of all cycles.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵🟣 Indigo-Blue Violet
- Indigo-Blue Violet = depth, wisdom, fulfillment of cycles.
- The blending of all rays into wholeness.

Musical Note: 🎵 A
- Resonates with enduring vibration, structure, and harmony of the whole.

Path on the Tree: 32nd Path
- Connects Yesod (Foundation) → Malkuth (Kingdom).
- Called the Administrative Intelligence — path of completion, manifestation, and integration.
- The World = the whole work perfected in the Kingdom.

Cube of Space: Center of the Cube
- Tav rules the Cube’s center — the point of balance, harmony, and fulfillment.
- Represents the seal of Spirit at the heart of creation, the still point within all.

Alchemy / Metal: Lead ● (Saturn)
- Heavy, dense, enduring.
- Symbol of limitation, patience, and the slow alchemy of mastery.

Attributes:

Aspect of Consciousness: Realization.
Realization refers to something that has been made real, achieved, known and understood. It is the completed, final, "personal" state of awareness whereby all things are known as they *really* are. Realization is the direct experience "that we and all others are one with the One Life, *really* one." In this state, the lightning flash of Truth/Reality is no longer momentary as shown in Key 16, but instead has become permanent and perpetual. One is perpetually awake.

Yet in this state, there is still the duality of the knower and the known; the observer and the observed. Therefore, Realization represents the penultimate state of awareness where the final realization of Unity which can still be known from a "personal" viewpoint, is achieved. It is the final state of awareness you can experience with there still being an awareness of there even being a "you". Beyond this state of awareness there is only the complete absorption into the Absolute, symbolized by Key 21.

This is the 6th stage of spiritual unfoldment "in which the personal consciousness is on the verge of blending with the universal. At this stage, the adept realizes that his personal existence is nothing but the manifestation of the relationship between self-consciousness and subconsciousness [and that these are not] personal but are really modes of universal consciousness. [...] He knows that his personality has no separate existence, and this conviction is confirmed by fourth-dimensional experiences which finally blot out the delusion of separateness forever."

Hebrew Name: Shin (tooth)
Shin means "tooth", "probably a serpent's fang, and suggests sharpness, acidity, active manifestation. [This letter is a] symbol of the power which tears down limitations of form, as teeth break up food. As the serpent's fang, it represents the power which 'kills' the false personality and its sense of separateness." Shin cuts off forever our connection to error - "it terminates our sense of mortality."

As a Hebrew Mother letter, the element of Fire is attributed to Shin. "Fire is Superconsciousness, and when in conjunction with Shin, it is a distinct reference to the entrance and expression of Superconsciousness incarnate, the physical plane life."

Letter Sh, Hebrew "Shin," means "tooth," suggesting a serpent's fang. It is called the Holy Letter, and one of the three Mother Letters, the one for Fire. As a tooth, it breaks down all form in readiness to start over. Also called "Life Breath of the Divine Ones."

Shin as a number is equivalent to 300.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Perpetual Intelligence
"Perpetual Intelligence is the mode of consciousness. Its name is derived from a Hebrew root meaning "to stretch." This implies that the Perpetual Intelligence is an extension beyond the limits of the modes of consciousness common to most human beings. The name also implies everlastingness, eternity, and thus, conscious immortality." In this state, one has complete and total recall of all memory and has conscious 4th dimensional awareness perpetually. One no longer sleeps, even though the physical body be put to rest.

Astrological Correspondence: Pluto
Astrologically, it correlates with Pluto, and with Vulcan, both of which are associated with Fire.

"Pluto is the Mars vibration, but at a higher octave or rate of oscillation. It is the Martian force of destruction breaking down the errors of false knowledge, but at an even more intense level of manifestation. Mars expresses its force in a personal manner, whereas Pluto is more expressive in and of humanity as a whole. Thus, what Pluto accomplishes is felt, eventually, throughout all of Mankind since it is the force of the Divine Will to accomplish the realization of unity." Pluto is co-ruler of Scorpio (K13:Death). Transformation (and sex & death, also attributed to Scorpio) is the process reflecting the One Divine Will's drive towards Unity via the dissolution of form.

Number: 20
The power of 0 operating through the agency of 2. Realization is the operation of Superconsciousness directly through subconsciousness. It is the receptive state of truly knowing and realizing the eternal source and unity of all things.

Number of Key, 20

The Function is Realization.

Path of Wisdom 31 is called "perpetual Intelligence, because it rules the movements of the Sun and the Moon, according to their constitution, and causes each to gravitate in its respective orb."

Color / Note: Red / C

The Sixth Stage of Spiritual Unfoldment shows human consciousness on the verge of blending with the Universal Consciousness.

Tarot Key: Judgement

Judgement implies a reasoned conclusion, completion, decision, and termination. In the state of awareness symbolized here, reasoning has come to an end, and a new order of knowing is revealed. This key represents the final state of personal consciousness, the fourth dimension (The Astral Plane) and fourth dimensional consciousness. Judgement is the resurrection out of our coffins of separation and three-dimensional existence, and into the realization of the source of ALL.

Scene: The Archangel Gabriel blows a trumpet as a woman, man, and child rise out of their coffins.

Angel: The Archangel Gabriel. He represents the Divine Breath, or cosmic fire. He blows a trumpet because sound is the instrument of final liberation. The seven tones coming from the trumpet are those which affect the seven interior stars (chakras) by sympathetic vibration. The use of sound (and words of power) to heal, to dissolve old patterns (coffins), and to awaken the chakras (Qabalistic Mantra -Vibratory Attunement).

Banner: The banner of the cross measures 5x5 and stands for complete adaptation.

Man: Self Consciousness. He is in a passive attitude since in the 4th dimension, everything is the reverse of physical conditions. Here, the self-conscious mind realizes that it is merely a channel; it does nothing whatever of itself. The color of all three persons is gray indicating that this scene is not located in the physical plane, and that at this stage of unfoldment all pairs of opposites have been neutralized.

Woman: Subconsciousness. She stretches out her arms to receive the influence of the angel. The Subconsciousness mode is actively receiving the influx of Superconscious knowing.

Child: The regenerated personality created by the forces expressed in Key 19. His back is to us indicating that the new personality will no longer be subject to the illusions of the world of appearances. Instead, the attention is clearly focused on the perpetual, everlasting reality behind all appearances.

Coffins: Represent the three dimensions of the physical plane. The three human figures stand at right angles to these coffins to indicate that they are stepping out of physical limitation and into the real fourth dimensional awareness of the true Self.

Ocean: "The coffins float upon a sea which is the final reservoir of those waters which begin in the robe of the High Priestess."[8] The flow of the cosmic mind stuff has come to an end. Thus, the state of Samadhi depicted by the Hanged Man (suspended mind) of Tarot Key 12 ultimately leads to the state of Realization symbolized by this tarot key.

Mountains: "Snowy mountains in the background represent the heights of abstract thought." They also symbolize the "fixation of the volatile" (frozen water). Since the flow of conscious energy (water) is what gives rise to illusions, the fixation or stopping of this flow is what stops the illusion and brings about liberation.

The angel shown is Gabriel, called archangel of the Moon, the reflective quality of Universal Memory. His name translated means Might of God, or "Strength of God."

The cloud is shown as a circle, containing a figure 8, to suggest eternity, as well as the fourth dimension. Clouds surround the angel, because the true nature of Self is veiled by the substance of appearances.

12 rays of light (of True Self) pierce the cloud - Gabriel is one aspect of that Light.

7 rays descend from the trumpet, seven great sounds whose vibrations help wake the spiritual centers.

The trumpet represents specialization of the Live Breath in sound. It calls forth certain subconscious activities which result in final liberation. Correctness of sound is important in music as well. To choose harmonies of refinement is a requirement upon the spiritual path.

Red wings to indicate active energy of the Fire element assigned to this Key. "Hear thou the Voice of the Fire," says a Chaldean oracle.

The banner shows the magic square of Mars -- its equal-armed cross relating to Key 4, and the fourth dimension. Mars also belongs to the Fire element.

The icebergs refer to the alchemical process called "fixing the volatile." When we arrest the stream of consciousness and make it solid, we are emancipated from illusion. The higher consciousness (as in Key 12) arrests the flow of mental energy.
The sea is the end of flowing water, begun with the High Priestess. Her work is completed.

The child of earth has risen from the grave of error. As the first destruction was by water, the second is by Fire (Spirit) in Judgment.

This is Judgment Day, when Spirit shall judge the earth.

The stone coffins supported by the sea show this mental substance as the support of form. Their solidity suggests three-dimensional form, while bodies standing at right angles suggest fourth dimension.

The gray color of their skin indicates that they have overcome earth's limited concepts and have overcome all pairs of opposites. They function on the astral plane, their attitude reversed from that of earth -- the man passive and the woman active in attitude.

Their arms are lifted in the formation of the letters LVX, which spell "Light" in Latin.

> Gabriel appeared to Daniel, saying, "Understand, 0 Son of Man, that the vision is for the end of Time." Daniel 8:17.

FIRE has been called an overstate of matter, having the highest vibration among the "Four Elements," or principles of Nature. Being more mysterious in aspect and origin, it is sometimes referred to as the "Eye of God."

Fire being least dense among the four phases of Matter, it manifests both visibly and invisibly -- the discernible and substantial flame comparable to the indiscernible ethereal or spiritual flame. Spiritual Fire has the quality of Light.

Key 20 – Judgment: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔴 Scarlet Red (Fire)
- **Path:** 31st Path – Hod → Malkuth (Shin, ש – “Tooth”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔴 Scarlet Red
- **Meaning:** Scarlet is the fiery vibration of Shin, one of the three Mother Letters. It represents Spirit in its purifying, consuming aspect, the fire that dissolves death and limitation. In Judgment, this scarlet flame signifies awakening, resurrection, and liberation through divine fire.
- **Symbolism:** Renewal, resurrection, fiery purification, Spirit’s call to eternal life.

🟡 Yellow – Illumination of Mind

- **Areas:** Inside trumpet bell; rays from clouds.
- **Meaning:** Solar clarity radiating through the Angel’s call.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, intellect, divine light of awakening.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Upper background; water; Angel’s dress (darker blue).
- **Meaning:** Subconscious depth and continuity of Spirit flowing into resurrection.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, memory, infinite waters of renewal.

⚫+⚪ Gray – Balanced Wisdom

- **Areas:** Human bodies; coffins (darker gray).
- **Meaning:** The neutrality of mortality, matter dissolving into Spirit’s call.
- **Symbolism:** Balance of opposites, wisdom in transition, threshold of change.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Clouds; banner (except cross); icebergs (with delicate blue highlights); Angel’s collar edging.
- **Meaning:** Spirit’s purity revealed in transformation.
- **Symbolism:** Innocence, eternal Spirit, clarity beyond death.

🟨 Gold – Solar Radiance

- **Areas:** Trumpet exterior.
- **Meaning:** Solar perfection carrying the divine call.
- **Symbolism:** Illumination, vitality, authority of Spirit.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

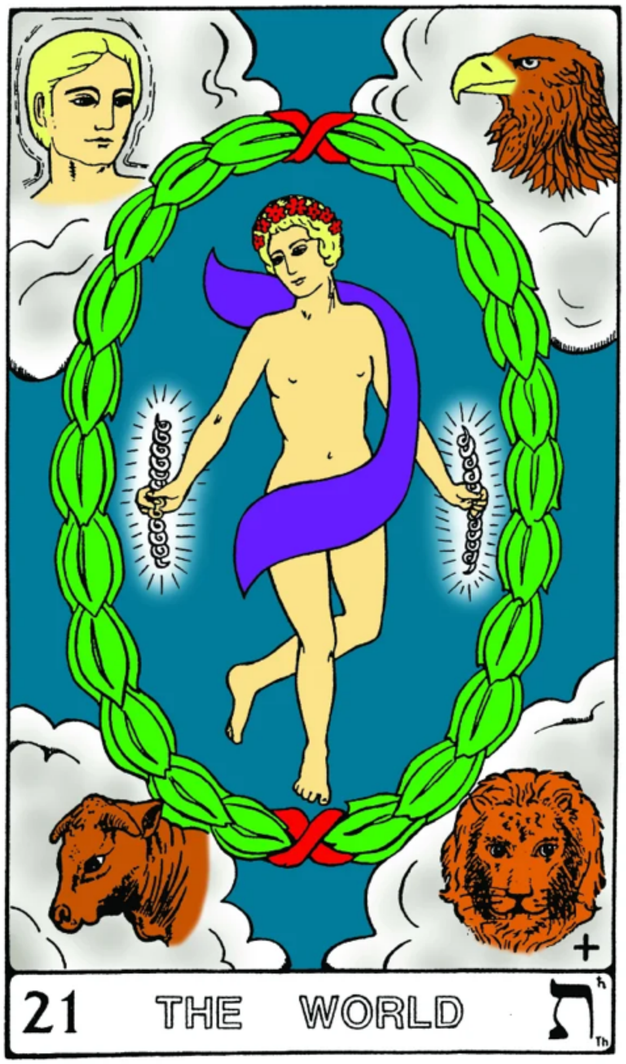
- **Areas:** Hair of Angel, woman, and child.
- **Meaning:** Golden vitality embodied in those responding to the call.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, innocence, abundance, continuity of life.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Cross on banner; Angel’s wings.
- **Meaning:** Fiery energy and passion woven into Spirit’s command.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, transformative energy, generative fire.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Hair of man.
- **Meaning:** Earthly aspect of humanity raised to resurrection.
- **Symbolism:** Foundation, natural humanity rising into Spirit.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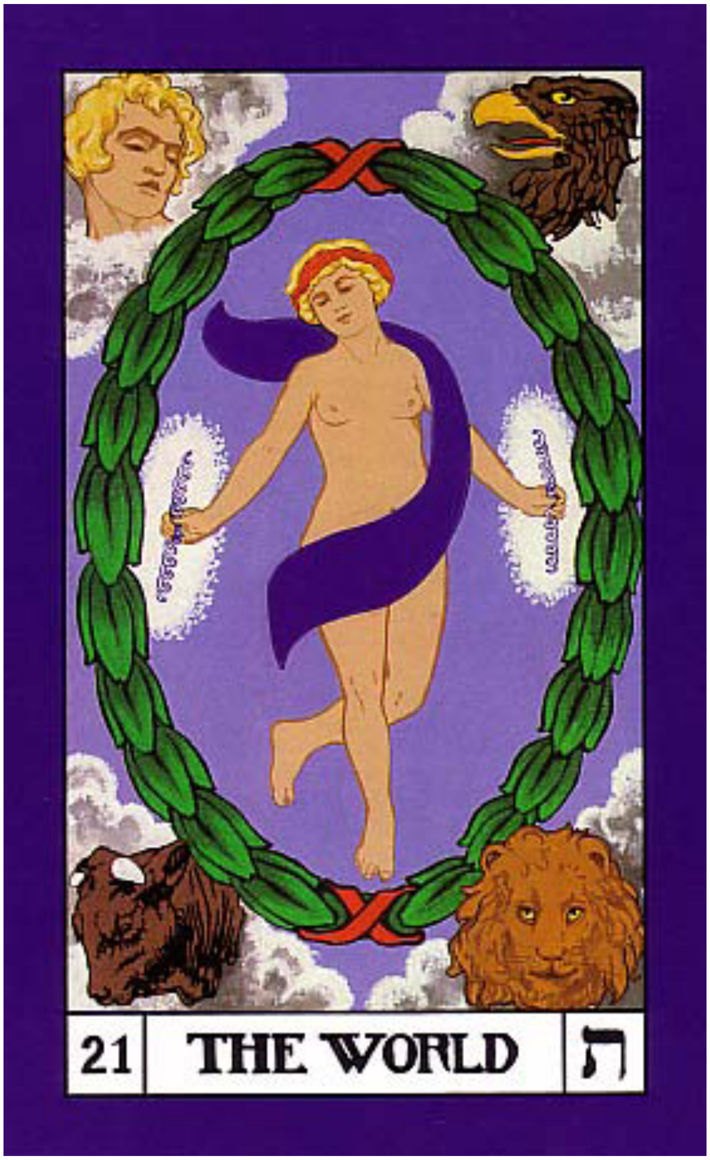
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Key 21
THE WORLD

Letter	Th T av - Mark

As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.

Judgement broke down all barriers in readiness to start over. "And there shall be (and now is) a New Heaven and a New Earth." It is this new state of consciousness that is depicted in Key 21 - that of one who has overcome all and has attained inner and outer perfection. This is the goal of all previous endeavors, and the accomplishment of the Great Work of alchemy.

The Greek word for "world" is cosmos, which better describes the meaning of this Key as comprehending the whole universe.

The three figures shown in Key 20 have merged now into the whole perfect being, perfect because it has risen to become one with the Cosmic Reality. The separate components of personal consciousness, the subconscious, and the newborn spiritual consciousness reached their highest state in Key 20, and have now merged into One, the integrated consciousness of Realization. No longer are these areas of awareness separated into assorted closed pockets to be used one at a time but have come all together in one piece to permit simultaneous functioning on all counts.

That this is a living state is shown by the green wreath of Nature surrounding the central figure. The growth and power of the living Word is evident, for it is composed of twenty-two leaves, symbolizing the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet which construct speech. Each leaf is of triple-formation, to denote the three stages in any process of vital growth - those of coming into effect, or integration; balance, or equilibration; and thirdly, disintegration.

The wreath is called the Crown of the Initiate, "given only unto him who master’s the four guardians," and enters into the presence of the whole Truth. It is the wreath of victory woven to form the Crown of overcoming.

This is tied with red ribbon in the form of two figure-eight’s, the number of dominion and infinity. Their red color shows the field of activity as being in the physical realm. The only part which shows is a segment shaped like X, this being one form of the cross, itself an ancient method of writing the letter Tav, or T, and is used as a signature by some. Here the ties form the signature or witness of completion of the work of the living Word, as they bind all its component parts into a perfected whole, and form a framework within which the realized Self may function.

The zero-formation of the wreath carries us through to the next state of The Fool, as though a circle had been completed, twenty-two Keys having opened a great Door into the Mysteries of the Ages. Where once The Fool blew forth his Breath of Divine Life by means of the Word, he now prepares to gather the fruit of that resounding Word, in the dense field of the world. But as with all circles of evolution, the motion is spiral; the end of the circle is higher than the beginning, and is no end at all, because its upward movement is infinite.

The Fool stood looking outward and upward to that which must be accomplished, but The World is looking within to the Self where the kingdom of heaven has been discovered. Together 0 and 21 show the beginning and the end. Into the hands of this Self-controlled being are all powers given of dominion and authority, and of the uses of all positive and negative forces of Nature. He grasps the twin spheres of electricity which whirl in two opposite directions to denote the dual nature of Universal Force, positive and negative, as well as involution and evolution. A glowing ellipse of white light surrounds them.

The figure itself is neither male nor female, but a perfectly balanced being or androgyne. This fact is veiled by a violet scarf shaped like the letter Kaph of Key 10. An ancient Hebrew word is *olahm*, which meant both "world" and "that which is hidden or veiled." The posture of this figure is akin to the alchemical symbol for Sulphur, or that Divine Fire which is the heart of the great Mystery.

The violet, or Truth-color of the scarf, shaped like the letter Kaph (which means "grasp," or "closed hand"), denotes that here the grasp of Truth itself has become complete. "The Truth shall make you free." It is as though the only support to be considered here is the Hand of God bearing one up. The red wreath upon the head of the individual is the fruition of the green wreath worn by The Empress, which developed flowers in Strength, and now is a full-grown and activated crown of Nature.

This thirty-second Path of Wisdom is called Administrative Intelligence, for he who possesses it is brought into a condition of responsibility for cooperating with the Creator of all, and to do his part in helping to direct the administration of the universe. This Path is said to "direct all the operations of the seven planets and concur therein."

Because he has left behind the error-driven consciousness of old and has entered into the stream of divine consciousness, he becomes totally cooperative with the Will of God. For it is not that he has gained powers, so much as that he has opened himself up to the Divine Conscious Energy of the Creative Expression of all things - in other words to God. The state of Being represented here is that of functioning fully with Self. The personal consciousness which found termination in Shin is now superseded by the higher realization, or Cosmic Consciousness.

"The true light that lightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not." (John 1: 9) The old world of matter yields its control as the new spiritual world enters to take it over. "In an instant," said a Sufi named Shabistari, "rise from time and space. Set the world aside and become a world within yourself." Like a new orb launched into space, Tav has Become.

Until now he has been in the process of preparing himself for this mission, of working through discipline toward perfection. The Celestial Dancer did not achieve perfect command over his vehicle and over the forces of gravity without extensive practice and rigid discipline. It takes years to train a prima ballerina, one who seems to defy gravity in graceful leaps and whirls; and the same holds true for the spiritual Dancer, who dwells upon earth and uses it, but is never held nor bound by it. He is set free from its former limitations, not by being excused from or escaping them, but by facing and overcoming them. Then he is ready to inherit the Crown of the Kingdom given to one who overcomes. Here he touches from within the Crown of Kether at the top of the Tree of Life.

The planet Saturn is assigned to this Key; he being considered the stern teacher and disciplinarian who seems to restrict one's free will to do as he pleases. Actually, it is only through this discipline that one is enabled to become the Dancer. Saturn makes you "toe the mark" until you know it so well that it becomes a habit to discipline yourself, and outside restrictions are no longer needed when Self-discipline has become an integral part of your being; and only then can you know true freedom, for you now have command of the very things which obstructed you before.

The element Earth is also represented by Tav. Saturn is a planet of earth-nature, and here that element reaches its ultimate. For the squeeze of external pressures have produced the hardest substance, that perfect diamond at the core of all - the Radiant One flashing its Light, clear and most durable. It is in earth, rather than in abstraction, that one finds the fullest opportunity to serve.

In mythology Saturn swallowed his own children, and on the Path of Tav all previous modes of consciousness are swallowed up. (Thus, it logically follows Shin, the Tooth). The Hebrew name for Saturn, seventh planet of the ancients, was *Shabbathai*, from whence we derive "sabbath," the day of cessation from labor, because the world has been made, and Work finished. Twenty-one is three times seven, and thus a spiritual manifestation of the law of seven. Saturn also has to do with Time, otherwise called a crystallization of Eternity. The four creatures shown at the corners of the Key represent the four elements of earth as depicted by the fixed signs of the zodiac, sometimes called the four directions of Space. In Key 10 these same figures show the bull turned inward away from the world of material form, toward the field of abstract Energy; but here he has turned about to break the pattern of involution, and to move outward to work in the world of form.

The man represents the fixed-Air sign, Aquarius; the lion, fixed-Fire sign Leo; the eagle, fixed-Water sign Scorpio; and the bull, fixed-Earth sign Taurus. Each element is presented in its most stable condition, called "fixed" or solid, and this denotes the materialization or crystallization of form, which Saturn influences. Yet within the seeming bounds of the elements and the weight of matter, the Self soars free.

Twenty-one is the completion of that which was promised or foreshadowed in Key 12, where was shown the upside-down reflection of the ultimate Reality, though that was its first outward manifestation. At that point man had suspended himself by a spiritual cord to the goal, which then appeared as the hard gallows shaped like a letter Tav. It was the beginning of disciplines. But the goal is now mastered, and the support no longer needed: now he is Self-suspended. Job said, "God hangs the earth upon nothing." When the adult age of twenty-one is reached, spiritually as well as legally, the Dance of Life begins, supported by nothing but Self in perfect equilibrium. Now one begins to express and demonstrate in practice what he has gained or learned in theory and, in taking on complete responsibility, he is released like the baby bird to fly.

And so Tav seals his witness of the culmination of the Work leading to Realization and Cosmic Consciousness. He makes his cross or mark, "Tav" his signature. Jesus, too, culminated his earthly work with a cross which has become his symbol and signature in the Christian world. Yet the word Tav itself is spelled with two Hebrew letters - Tav and Vav - signifying completion and continuation.

"I am the Alpha and the omega, the beginning and the ending." This is the Ascension.

Tav is placed at the centermost point of the Cube of Space, the Place of the Presence, or the Shekinah. The seven double or planetary letters form the four faces and central point of the Cube, while the twelve simple letters represent the twelve boundary lines. Three remaining letters cross the Cube and represent the Elements Air, Fire, and Water. That place which stands in the center of all is called the Holy Habitation of God.

Key 21
THE WORLD

Double Letter: Key 21 - Th Tav Dominion & Slavery Saturn

This Key represents the uses of *limitation*. It shows that the dance of life is carried on by means of the form-building, solidifying power that gives us *definiteness*. It is that power which enables us to measure and to know with exactness and precision. The influence of Saturn is always limiting and restrictive, but this is never malefic unless we allow it to use us instead of our using it. This power is the very basis upon which all science is founded. In token d the correct way to use this force of limitation, the mode of consciousness attributed to Key 21 is the Administrative Intelligence. The result of such right use is evident in that this Key also represents the stage of spiritual unfoldment called *Cosmic Consciousness*. Remember, too, that *concentration* is an ad of limitation.

The four figures in the corners are the same as in Key 10. Another hint of relationship between these two keys is the veil that covers the central figure. This is in the form of the letter Kaph, which is the letter attributed to the 10th Key. The wreath is a mathematical symbol, but among other things it refers to the Life-Power as the fundamental principle of form. Since a wreath is a work of man it refers to man's use of this power for building. The central figure appears to be feminine, but the legs have a masculine appearance which reveals that the figure is really androgynous. The spirals in her hands represent integration and disintegration, since they are turning in opposite directions.

Apparently, this Key is the end of the series, but there is no end to it in reality. 21 is a triple manifestation of the number 7, and 7 represents the end of a cycle and the beginning of the next. Key 0 follows Key 21. Thus, the never ceasing *law of cyclicity* is manifest in the symbolism of the TAROT. There are always other steps to take, always a higher goal to strive for. As you continue in your search for Truth in your ever-increasing spiritual growth you will find the principles embodied in the TAROT will be those upon which you must rely for your guidance in every plane of existence, for all evolution is the manifestation and expression of *Cosmic Law*.

Key 21 – The World

Hebrew Letter: Tav (ת) – “Cross / Mark” ✝️
- ת Tav means *Cross* or *Mark* — a sign of completion, seal, or covenant.
- Represents fulfillment, wholeness, and the boundary that completes the cycle.
- As a Double Letter, Tav governs Saturn, planet of limitation, structure, and endurance.

English Equivalent / Value: T = 400
- Twenty-second and final letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- Value 400 = completion of cycles, the seal of fulfillment.
- Tav as cross-mark = the signature of Spirit upon creation, the final stamp of truth.

Cabalistic Intelligence: Administrative (Collective) Intelligence
- Called the intelligence that regulates and perfects the whole work of creation.
- Represents the ordering principle that binds all together in harmony.

Aspect of Consciousness: Completion / Structure / Endurance
- Faculty of organization and order.
- The World signifies harmony, fulfillment, and conscious mastery of the whole.
- Consciousness here rejoices in integration, the dance of Spirit in matter.

Astrology: Planet Saturn ♄ — Day: Saturday (Saturn’s Day)
- Saturn = structure, limitation, endurance, wisdom of experience.
- Governs time, patience, maturity, and the fulfillment of cycles.
- Represents the boundary that perfects creation and seals it whole.

Polarity: Dominion ↔️ Slavery
- Dominion = mastery of cycles through wisdom.
- Slavery = bondage to time, form, or limitation.

Seasonal Associations:
- Winter — time of fulfillment, patience, and harvest of all cycles.

Color (Queen Scale): 🔵🟣 Indigo-Blue Violet
- Indigo-Blue Violet = depth, wisdom, fulfillment of cycles.
- The blending of all rays into wholeness.

Musical Note: 🎵 A
- Resonates with enduring vibration, structure, and harmony of the whole.

Path on the Tree: 32nd Path
- Connects Yesod (Foundation) → Malkuth (Kingdom).
- Called the Administrative Intelligence — path of completion, manifestation, and integration.
- The World = the whole work perfected in the Kingdom.

Cube of Space: Center of the Cube
- Tav rules the Cube's center — the point of balance, harmony, and fulfillment.
- Represents the seal of Spirit at the heart of creation, the still point within all.

Alchemy / Metal: Lead ⚫ (Saturn)
- Heavy, dense, enduring.
- Symbol of limitation, patience, and the slow alchemy of mastery.

Attributes:

Aspect of Consciousness: Cosmic Consciousness
The seventh stage of spiritual unfoldment. All sense of separation ends. There is only a blissful, peaceful, and loving state of indivisible oneness with the Only One. "This Key signifies Cosmic Consciousness, or Nirvana. For full descriptions of this state see Dr. Richard Maurice Bucke's Cosmic Consciousness, Ali Nomad's [Cosmic Consciousness], Ouspensky's Tertium Organum, Jacob Boehme's Supersensual Life, William James' Varieties of Religious Experience, and the writings of Swami Vivekananda. The central fact of this experience is that he to whom it comes has first-hand knowledge that he is in perfect union with the One Power which is the Pivot and the Source of the whole cosmos. He knows also that through him the governing and directing power of the universe flows out into manifestation."

" So, is this the end, the ultimate goal? No. We have attained the mountain top, but like The Fool, we must venture into the valley of experience so that we can learn to carry this state of consciousness with us wherever we go and point the way along the Path to other souls seeking their return to the Self."

Hebrew Name: Tav (mark, T-cross)
Tav (or Tau) means signature or mark, but the mark is a cross of equal arms [...] Among the Hebrews was a symbol of salvation (Ezekiel 9:4). Thus, it represents salvation from death, and eternal life. As representing a signature, this letter implies security, guaranty, pledge, and so on. A signature is what makes business instruments valid. The letter Tav therefore indicates the final seal and witness to the completion of the Great Work of liberation."

As a double letter, Tav represents the opposites of Dominion and Slavery. If one has true Cosmic Consciousness, he has dominion of a kind. The farther from Cosmic Consciousness one is, the more he is enslaved by the conditions and situations of life.

Letter T, or Th, Tav, translated means "cross," "mark," or "signature." This Key marks the signature of culmination of the series. It is a letter signifying perfection, without any negative connotation.

Qabalistic Intelligence: The Administrative Intelligence
The Administrative Intelligence is attributed to Tav. "This is consciousness of active participation in the cosmic government. It is entry into the kingdom of heaven as a fully enfranchised citizen, charged with full responsibility for the execution of its laws."

Astrological Correspondence: Saturn

Astrologically, Saturn rules this Key; the limitation and discipline which led to this point have their reward. Concentration is also an act of limitation.

"According to mythology, Saturn ate his own children. He represents that which absorbs its own expressions back into itself. Exoterically, Saturn is the planet of [limitation, restriction,] inertia, concreteness, profundity, weight"[5] "Cosmic Consciousness, which is the absolute freedom from the delusions of separative existence, is the result of being able to absolutely limit, restrict, and focus our imagery to know that which we are, always have been, and always will be."[6] Liberation is the result of discipline. Absolute freedom and liberation are the result of the absolute limitation and focusing of consciousness.

Saturn is a co-ruler of Aquarius (K17: The Star). The revelations which come from meditation are the result of limiting consciousness by focusing the mind.

Saturn rules Capricorn (K15: The Devil). Physical form and the bondage of ignorance both result from the principle of limitation. It "is the source of those apparent limitations which make us seek a way of escape from bondage." A narrowing down and focusing of awareness for the purpose of manifestation.

Saturn is exalted in Libra (K11: Justice). The limiting power finds its highest expression in the active and dynamic administration of Cosmic Law - balanced action. Note also that dancing is a form of balanced action (see the dancer, below).

Number: 21
The power of 1 acting through the agency of 2. Self-Consciousness acting through Subconsciousness. In the case of the 7th stage of spiritual unfoldment, however, the Self-Consciousness depicted is not the "personal" self-conscious mode, but the consciousness of the Universal Self acting through the Universal Cosmic mind stuff. The world, the universe, everything that IS, is the result of the One Primal Will (1) acting on and through the substance of itself (2). On more mundane levels, every "world" or microcosm is the result of some initiating will (1) acting on and through substance (2); force and form, enlivening energy and a matrix to hold that energy in some pattern.

Number 21, the final Key and letter depict the element Earth, the Creation. The goal of the Great Work.

Path of Wisdom 32 is called the Administrative Intelligence (sometimes the Assisting or Serving Intelligence) because "it directs all operations of the seven planets, with their divisions, and concurs therein."

Color / Note: Blue-Violet / A

Tarot Key: The World

"Words fail to give any adequate idea of this seventh stage of spiritual unfoldment. We must leave it to your intuition to combine the suggestions of the picture with the meanings of the letter Tav. Here is a representation of what you really are, and of what the cosmos really is. The universe is the Dance of Life. The immortal, central Self of you -That is the Eternal Dancer."

Dancer: This androgyne figure represents the merging of self-consciousness with subconsciousness with Superconsciousness. She bears two spiral wands representing the spiral force of the Life-Power (Involution and Evolution). Her violet scarf is symbolic of K10 (Rotation, Cosmic Law) and hints that behind the veil of mechanism lies the true Self of ALL. She is the ultimate expression of freedom. The Dancer in the Dance of Life.

Oval: A zero sign, the symbol of Superconsciousness. In the esoteric BOTA version of this key, the oval is composed of 22 three-fold leaves indicating the three-fold nature of each of the 22 forces which may manifest itself in integration, disintegration, or in equilibration. The dancer dances within the oval. Absolute liberation and freedom is found within the bounds of discipline and Self-imposed limitation.

Red Bindings: In the shape of a figure 8, has the same meaning of the infinity symbols over the heads of the Magician (Key 1) and the woman in Key 8. They symbolize rhythm, dominion, and the principle of correspondence - "as above, so below." The bindings are red "to suggest that the law symbolized by keys 1 [focused attention] and 8 [loving discipline] have been carried into action."

Four Creatures: The four living creatures typify the fixed, eternal modes of the One Reality, as shown in Key 10. However, in the esoteric (BOTA) version of this key the Bull (symbol of the physical plane) faces away from the Lion.

" In cosmic consciousness the closed circuit of successive transformations of energy is broken." The adept is no longer bound to the limitations of the physical plane.

The inner secret of the cross is the Center where the One Identity has its Abode. This is the Palace of Holiness in the midst, where the Ruling Principle dwells.

The central point is a positive reality, the Place of God; yet it is that which is not, because without form or dimension - hence "is not."

He who finds the Self finds the World-Ruler.

In the four comers of the picture are seen the same mystical figures as in Key 10 - except here the bull is turned away from the lion and from the center, to indicate forces moving out toward concrete manifestation.

The four animals represent the fixed signs and elements of the zodiac, and the fixed conditions in which all manifestation takes place. Also, the Great Name IHVH.

The wreath is an ellipse, a zero-sign, resting above the figures of those creatures representing Earth and Fire, that is, the bull and the lion, because man's power of giving form to fiery energy helps him weave together the leaves.

The 22 leaves represent the 22 modes of force derived from that One Energy, each leaf in three parts to denote the three modes of the Life-Power's expression -- Integrative, Disintegrative, and Equilibrating. They are the 22 letters of the living Word.

The dancer is the celestial androgyne, both male and female. She is the embodiment of the fiery Life-Power. Her dance suggests the Law of rhythm, at work everywhere, and the perfect balance of one who commands both his own vehicle and the elements.

She (he) is more than would appear, as indicated by the veil which partially hides her figure. The veil is shaped like Kaph, the letter of Key 10, and is allotted the purple color associated with that Key, and its planet Jupiter. This suggests that the mechanism of the universe tends to conceal and draw attention away from the truth of Reality.

Two spirals in her hands turn in opposite directions -- dual operations of the One Force, in integration and disintegration, complementary activities which are being carried on simultaneously, and without end, balancing each other.

Here the goal of the Great Work having been reached, the Father and Son have become One, and rule from the throne at the Center of Self. The personal self has become identified with the Central Reality of the universe. The three aspects of humanity in Key 20 have merged into one whole.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19.

The Greek word for "world" is Cosmos.

The function of this Key is Cosmic Consciousness.

Key 21 – The World: Coloring & Symbolism (with Jewels of the Wise & PFC color meanings)

Background

- **Color:** 🔵🟣 Blue-Violet (Indigo-Violet, Saturn/Earth)
- **Path:** 32nd Path – Yesod → Malkuth (Tav, ת – “Cross” or “Mark”)
- **Path Color (Queen Scale):** 🔵🟣 Blue-Violet
- **Meaning:** Blue-Violet is the vibration of Saturn and Earth, the completion of the Great Work. Tav marks the seal of manifestation, the boundary and gateway between worlds. The indigo-violet field reveals the synthesis of Spirit and matter in harmony.
- **Symbolism:** Completion, synthesis, cosmic order, wholeness, unity of Spirit and form.

🟢 Green – Venusian Harmony

- **Areas:** Wreath (except crossed ribbons at either end).
- **Meaning:** Fertility and growth encircle the Dancer, symbol of Nature’s balance.
- **Symbolism:** Growth, harmony, natural unity of Spirit.

🔵 Blue – Reflective Depths

- **Areas:** Background (leave white ellipses around spirals).

- **Meaning:** Celestial field, subconscious expanse surrounding the dance of Spirit.
- **Symbolism:** Reflection, cosmic depth, continuity of creation.

🟤 Brown – Earthy Foundation

- **Areas:** Animals (lion tawny with added yellow).
- **Meaning:** Bestial powers grounded in Nature, subject to Spirit's dance.
- **Symbolism:** Earth, instinct, foundation of manifested life.

⚪ White – Spirit of Purity

- **Areas:** Clouds (gray on white); rays from elliptical spiral field.
- **Meaning:** Spirit's brilliance shining through the veil of matter.
- **Symbolism:** Purity, Spirit, divine clarity radiating into creation.

🟡 Blonde – Solar Vitality

- **Areas:** Eagle's beak; hair of man; hair of Dancer.
- **Meaning:** Radiant solar power animating the living figures.
- **Symbolism:** Vitality, abundance, illumination of Spirit in form.

🟧 Tan – Flesh, Humanity

- **Areas:** Hands and faces (blend of red, yellow, brown, black, white).
- **Meaning:** Humanity as microcosm, embodying universal synthesis.
- **Symbolism:** Spirit incarnate in diversity, universal humanity.

🟣 Violet – Spiritual Power

- **Areas:** Veil of Kaph around the Dancer.
- **Meaning:** Spiritual sovereignty and higher wisdom clothing the central figure.
- **Symbolism:** Authority, truth, higher spiritual initiation.

🔴 Red – Mars, Passion

- **Areas:** Wreath on Dancer's head; X on ribbons at top and bottom of large oval wreath.
- **Meaning:** Passionate energy and fiery Spirit crowning the dance of creation.
- **Symbolism:** Passion, energy, generative force sustaining manifestation.

Mnemonic for the Four Living Creatures:
"Man, Lion, Bull, Eagle = All."

- Man = Intelligence (Aquarius)

- Lion = Courage (Leo)
- Bull = Strength (Taurus)
- Eagle = Vision (Scorpio transformed)
  Together they form the four corners of creation.